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The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 17, Number 31 **August 5th, 1982**

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Anglers, young and old alike, line the bulkhead of the boat basin at Captree State Park with snappers as their quarry. Now's the time for "Fun with Snappers." See page 14. Photo by Gerald Hahn.

COMING NEXT WEEK: ★ L.I. SOUND AFTER DARK ★ MONTAUK FLUKE ★ SUMMER COWS

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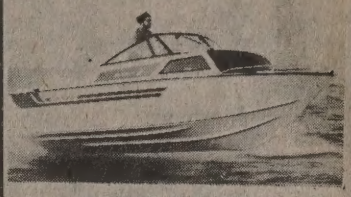

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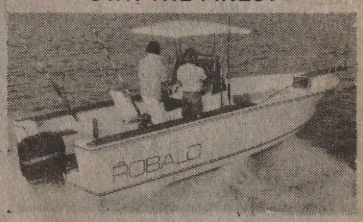

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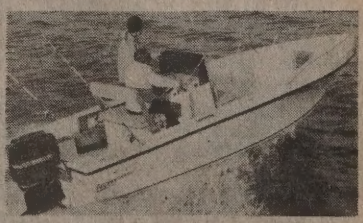

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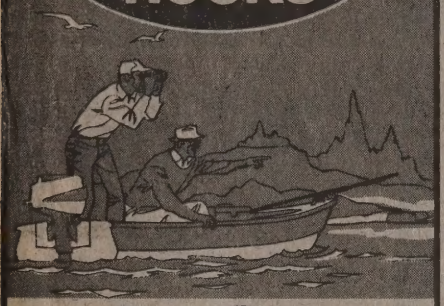

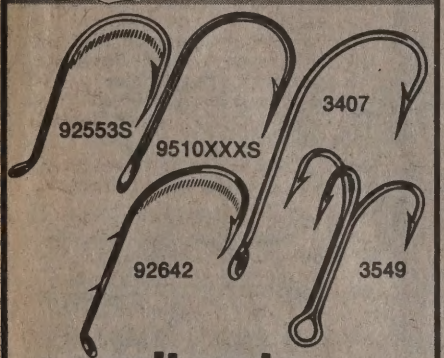

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EDITORIAL

WHAT EVER BECAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES?

On Sunday, July 11, 1982, I picked up the Newsday after breakfast and began to scour through it as is frequently my practice. I do this for the same reason that I peruse the East Hampton Star. That is, there is an obligation to keep up with the happenings that might impact upon recreational fishing, marine finfish species, and marine habitats. The preceding three items are all within the scope of my vocation and my avocation. I also read the papers for myself—my own enjoyment.

There is rarely a Sunday when I do not find something that upsets me: such is the nature of a disoriented world in which much of what happens lacks logical motivation and conclusions seem devoid of good common sense. Most of the time the things that upset me are concerned with politics, violent crime, assinine court decisions, and tales of mindless behavior. I have to get my feelings about these things off my chest at home or with friends, because The Long Island Fisherman isn't the proper forum to discuss such social frustrations. However, once in awhile a story appears that infuriates me and should be a topic of prime concern to at least most of our readers. Such was the case on Sunday, July 11, 1982 as I reviewed a story that appeared on pages 27 and 28. The story was entitled "Some Bills Signed Into Law In State Legislative Session." It was well put together by Sally Rhoades and I hope I'm not making an invalid assumption when I say that the two-page story was intended to summarize and highlight the more important bills passed during the 1981-82 session in Albany. I point this out because I cannot imagine such a story would not include important matters. For example, the 19-year-old drinking age bill was there, the bottle bill, the child seat belt bill, and the budget were all listed.

Why was I so upset by this story? Certainly not with the way Ms. Rhoades wrote it, but rather when my eyes hit the category called "Energy and Environment" (about midway in the second column of page 27), here is what I found. The bottle bill, a bill that establishes a minimum temperature for dwellings, and an increase in 18 hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses, and a bill to require energy audits for public housing projects. That's it, folks! After an entire session in Albany, the only real bill to help the environment passed into law was the bottle bill. Frankly, that astounds me in a state where we have had the disgrace of the Love Canal, the frightening experience of polluted wells in Bethpage and the North Fork, the PCBs dumping in the Hudson River, and acid rain along the Canadian border that has caught the attention of environmentalists all over the world. Note that I haven't even mentioned our marine environmental problems. I deliberately left them out because I now wish to focus on the marine zone, since this is obviously the area of our greatest interest and expertise.

What's happening on Long Island in the marine area? The following are, we believe, some of the more important items. One, the development of a striped bass management plan for a species that is economically significant to the State of New York and a species which is admitted by everyone to be in biological trouble. Two, the rapid proliferation of inshore commercial fishing which is destroying spawning and nursery areas and removing resident stocks of fish, thus negatively impacting upon other industries. Third, the relentless attempts to dump toxic materials in New York Bight and Long Island Sound. Fourth, the continued acceleration of neglect at the state parks, and since the state parks abut the sea and hold wildlife that is at least in part dependent upon the parks, we consider this to be a marine environmental issue. Let me be clear on this. The neglect does not come from those who run the state parks. In fact, it is our belief that they do a great job in the face of adversity. No; it is the legislators who, year after year, allocate less funds (when one figures in inflation and skyrocketing utility costs). Slowly, but surely, decay begins and proceeds. One day several decades from now the situation will be so bad that some senator or assemblyman will get so upset that they will demand more funds for the parks. By that time, the situation will probably be so bad that it will take an incredible financial investment just to get the parks back to where they were in 1970 and because the dollars will be so great, it won't get done—there will be no money! Crisis management! I detest it! Elected officials are charged with the task of looking ahead and planning for our future. They are privy to data and facts that the average person never gets to see and this information MUST be used to plan so as to avoid crises and thus avoid the need for crisis management. To do any less is to admit to one's own incompetence. Fourth, the demise of the hard clam industry in Great South Bay. Thanks to

pollution and over-harvesting, the stocks of hard clams in the bay are but a mere shadow of what they were ten years ago. Again, planning could have avoided this. Isn't it obvious that over-harvesting can bring a precipitous decline in a shell or fin fishery? Look, if you have ten apples in the refrigerator and you need five apples for a party five days from now. If you have six people in your family and everyone recklessly takes an apple, obviously come Saturday night you'll be short one apple. Luckily we can go to the store and buy more apples, but what if we had to make more apples—that is, create them. You can see we would be facing a major problem. So it is with marine life. If we take too much we can't go to the store and buy some more. We have to wait for God to make more. If we've taken too much, then there might not be enough animals for the natural reproductive process to replenish the stocks—especially if we go right on harvesting. The analogy would be if all the stores were out of apples! Fifth, we have a scallop crisis and yet no one will admit it. Sixth, we're doing too much dredging for the sake of free enterprise and although it isn't always obvious now, this will come back to haunt us.

Okay, that's enough! I could rant on and develop a many page list of gripes, but the above items are enough to make the point that needs to be made. This session, the Legislature of the State of New York had two excellent opportunities to pass meaningful marine environmental legislation and failed! Not only FAILED, but in our opinion, failed in disgrace. There was no excuse for not passing the striped bass management plan other than they didn't have the stomach for it. Our leaders were afraid to act. In past years there was the excuse that the species was not in trouble. This advice was eagerly provided by the DEC. However, in 1981-82 everyone agrees that the bass is in trouble and needs immediate significant management. The Legislature had the recommendations and data provided by the State/Federal striped bass management effort to provide them with all the information any reasonable person could possibly need to decide positively to take action on this issue. The Legislature did nothing and by doing nothing they said to us in effect—we don't care about you on Long Island and we don't care about striped bass! Other states have taken significant action to conserve and protect striped bass. Once again New York State brings up the rear. The greatest state in the nation and we are always last on issues such as tnis. Other states look to us for leadership and what does our Legislature provide: nothing.

The second issue where they had a chance was the "parks" bill, which would have prohibited commercial fishing within 1,000 feet of the shore at state parks. Here is a bill that would have allowed the Legislature to do something for our state parks and it would not have cost a penny. They had a chance to establish the state parks and the waters adjacent to the parks as sanctuaries where wildlife and fish and people could be free from intrusion by commercial activities. A few miles of waterfront sanctuary out of hundreds and they couldn't see their way clear to act positively on it in Albany. All the people pay taxes to maintain the parks for recreation and our leaders in Albany backed off in fear when 31 commercial fishermen complained.

Part of this is our own fault because so few of us write letters and make phone calls. Most legislators have little proof that there are 2.3 million of us out there in New York State. Yet, most of the blame goes to the Legislature, because they are supposed to act in accordance with the overall good, not according to the whims of a few. When the issues are obvious and the data abundant, legislators are obliged to vote their conscience, regardless of whether that vote is favored at home.

Don't get me wrong; there are some fine folks who travel to Albany each week, but it is abundantly clear that they are outnumbered by fools!

Walter A. Muller

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CONGRESS AND THE WHITE HOUSE DEBATE COAST GUARD FUNDING

Substantial cuts in the agency's budget could leave the Coast Guard, already suffering from increased operating costs and expanded responsibilities, unable to perform its myriad of duties off the nation's shores. Under the current 1982 budget, four cutters are slated to be decommissioned and 19 aids to navigation teams, 27 boating safety detachments, 91 vessel documentation offices and the Washington-based oceanographic unit will be terminated. Even more massive cuts proposed for 1983 would, if approved, add six more cutters and 15 search and rescue stations to the hit list.

Does it make sense to cripple an already overburdened Coast Guard? Few inside or outside the government think so. But these decisions are originating in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where such things as boating safety, fisheries enforcement in the 200-mile FCZ* marine pollution abatement, and drug and illegal alien interdiction (all under the charge of the Coast Guard) do not compute in the desperate scramble to cut Federal deficits.

While members of Congress look for ways to maintain the Coast Guard at present funding levels (either through emergency supplementary funding or transfer of the agency to the Department of the Navy), the OMB has offered its own solution. Late last year it introduced a proposal for a user fee to be administered by the Department of Transportation (DOT) whereby coastal boaters would foot the bill. The proposed measure would levy fees on recreational boaters ranging from $50 a year for all boats under 16 feet to $600 a year for boats over 65 feet in length. A commercial fisherman operating a vessel under 100 gross tons would pay $1,350 annually. Another proposal would increase the cost of navigational charts to $35 to $45 per copy. All the money collected from boaters would, ostensibly, go to the Coast Guard. But according to the Administration proposal as written, the revenues would be deposited in the general treasury with no stipulation as to where and how they would be spent! And on top of this, the unenviable task of enforcing this system would fall to—you guessed it—the Coast Guard.

In the opinion of NCMC director Ken Hinman, "The user pay concept, when administered fairly and equitably, is one whose time may have come. But then again the Coast Guard provides an important service for the country as a whole and should therefore be funded from general revenues. And most importantly, the OMB plan is a bad one, potentially harming the hard-pressed boating and fishing industries and probably doing very little for the Coast Guard.

"One thing is for sure," Hinman said, "unless boaters and fishermen get behind funding legislation, their direct costs will go up while services continue to deteriorate."

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN TAG TOURNAMENT RESULTS

More than 300 sports fishing enthusiasts in 63 boats competed Saturday and Sunday, July 17-18, in the Montauk Marine Basin's 11th Annual Shark Tag Tournament, combing the Atlantic over an area ranging 40 to 50 miles from Montauk Point.

The anglers boated 30 sharks, two white marlin and a swordfish to be brought to the weigh-in station. Many sharks were tagged and released from alongside the boats at sea as part of a National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) research program; the number will not be known until data cards from the anglers are received in the mail.

Sharks brought to the dock were weighed as candidates for trophies and then turned over to the NMFS research team from Narragansett,

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Rhode Island, headed by shark biologist Jack Casey. Another team from the State University of New York at Stony Brook also took samples and data for its special research projects.

Shark species caught during the tournament included Mako, Tiger, Dusky, Blue and Brown (sandbar). The Mako, in addition to providing excellent sport with its powerful swimming and spectacular leaping, is growing in popularity for the delectable steaks it provides for gourmet dinner tables.

Youngsters took the spotlight in this year's tournament in two categories that had been established for them: Junior Anglers, 12 to 17 years old, and Peewee Anglers, under 12. They produced impressive catches to earn their trophies.

In the Peewee Angler Division, 7-year-old Peter Shepis of New Rochelle, NY, received a trophy for a 136-pound Dusky he brought to the gaff aboard his father's boat, the "Petty Cash." In the same boat, Nick Tzaneteas, 10 years old, earned a trophy with a 161-pound Blue Shark. Nick Shepis Jr., 15 years old, received a consolation trophy—"hard luck award"—because he lost a small White shark that he had fought to the boat only to have it break free. Keith Hunt of Port Jefferson, fishing aboard the "Elena IV," was another Peewee trophy winner with a 116-pound Mako.

In the Junior Division, 14-year-old Andrew Chalson of Coram added a trophy to the one he earned last year. Fishing in the family boat, "Nikara," his 22-pound Mako was the heaviest of its class. Andrew DaRoss of Stony Creek, Ct., 15 years old, a member of the "Miss Judy II" team, won Heaviest Blue Shark Junior Trophy with a 56-pounder.

In the adult ranks, Linda Ermalinski of Kings Park, fishing in the family boat, "Lady Shazam," won a trophy and a free shark head mount by Fish Unlimited Taxidermy, Inc. of Babylon with a 131-pound Mako, the largest in the Women's Division. Melody Mukon of Newington, Ct., a member of the "Lady Bug" team, won second place with a 55-pound Mako.

Jane George of Little Falls, NJ won the first place Blue Shark trophy with a 220-pounder, fishing in the "Craps II." Second place was won by Elaine Hunt in the "Elena IV" with a 193-pound Blue Shark. She also received a trophy for "Most Unusual Catch" with a 9-pound Mako shark pup.

James McDaniel of Trumbul, Ct., fishing in the "Beagle II," won the first place Mako trophy in the Men's Division with a 126-pound shark. Second place was won with a 92-pounder by Vincent Dacimo of Waterford, Ct., in the "Independence."

In the Blue Shark category, Ray Achilli of Yonkers, NY, fishing aboard the charter boat "Mistress Too," won first place with a 250-pounder. Second

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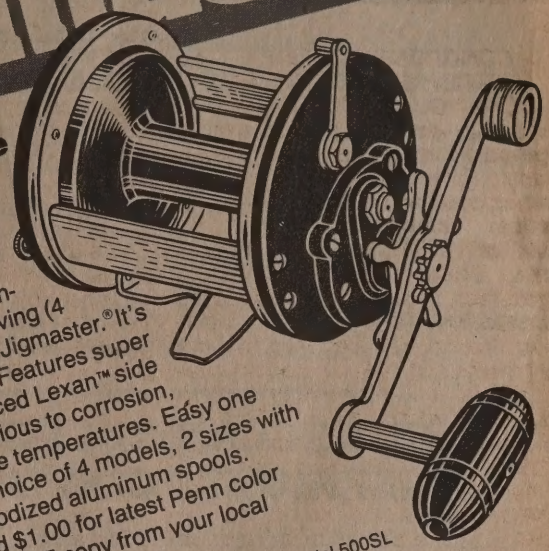

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place, with a 239-pounder, was won by Richard Longobardi, fishing aboard the "Hustler" out of North Haven, Ct.

The award for the heaviest shark of the tournament, a 413-pound Dusky, was won by Ron Rudker of Groton, Ct., a member of the "Lady Shazam" team. His catch earned a specially designed trophy by Pflueger Marine Taxidermy, Inc., of Hallandale, Fla.

Other trophies were awarded for the "first fish in the tournament," a 30-pound Mako caught by Thomas Radzivich aboard the "Katy Did", and "last fish in the tournament", Linda Ermalinski's 131-pound Mako in the "Lady Shazam."

LIBBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SLATED FOR AUG. 12

There will be a long Island Beach Buggy Association Board of Directors meeting at Bondi's Taver, Montauk Highway, Patchogue on August 12 at 8PM. Anyone interested in the functions of this organization may attend. For more information call 261-9767.

STRIPER RESEARCH YIELDS OMINOUS RESULTS

Research funded with money appropriated under the Chafee Amendment has so far failed to answer the vital question—what's causing the alarming decline in striped bass stocks from North Carolina to Maine? Analyses of body tissues taken from young and adult bass taken from various rivers has isolated a wide variety of contaminanats. But, according to researcher Philip Goodyear, there is no single "compound that appears to be linked to any specific biological effect related to the striped bass decline." Tests will continue to determine whether some combination of toxic chemicals may be the culprit. Further gloom was shed by a report that the 1981 Chesapeake Bay Reproduction Index was the poorest in years. The Index maintained over many years ia is an accurate indicator of the size of the various year classes recruiting to the Chesapeake Bay stocks. About 96% of the striped bass that migrate annually to the Northeast come from Chesapeake Bay. Most of the balance are spawned in the Hudson River. Surprisingly, Hudson Bay stocks are in good shape despite the fact that they are spawned in waters containing high concentrates of PCBs, a toxic compound once though to be a major factor in the striper decline.

If it was illustrated in graphic form, the Chesapeake Bay Reproduction Index would show a steep and uninterrupted decline to very, very low levels. In the past the overall striper population has been sustained by the occurrence of extra large spawning years called "dominant year classes." Dominant year classes used to occur about every six or seven years. None has occurred for about ten years. Moreover, with a shrinking spawning population and disappoint-

ing spawning success (eggs failing to hatch out and young hatchling fish living only for a few days or weeks) the probability of a dominant year class occurring becomes increasingly doubtful. If there is a combination of toxic chemicals responsible for poor spawning success, it is vitally important that the scientists identify it and find a viable way to eliminate it from the Chesapeake's spawning and nursery areas. "The Administration has little enthusiasm for footing the bill for this kind of project," NCMC Chairman Hal Lyman said recently. "So if we're going to get spending authorization again next year, anglers will have to lobby hard for it when the time comes."

WILDLIFE FEDERATION SAYS REAGAN WETLANDS PLAN VIOLATES INTENT OF CLEAN WATER ACT

The Reagan Administration's proposal to revise the Clean Water Act's regulatory program for wetlands is a serious violation of the "very intent" of the Clean Water Act, according to the National Wildlife Federation.

"I am troubled that this task force directive for administrative revision of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act—President Reagan's first stated position on an environmental issue—so clearly reflects a lack of concern for the health of this nation's environment," said Dr. Jay D. Hair, executive vice president of the NWF. "The report demonstrates the Administration's decided preference for political expediency over the quality of this nation's waters."

Hair said he had voiced his concerns in a letter to Vice President George Bush, who heads the special regulatory task force that recommended revisions for the federal wetland regulatory program. "Millions of acres of acres of wetlands are at stake," said Hair. "We hope to be able to sit down with Bush and resolve our differences before the proposals are implemented."

Hair called the revisions "no more than a thinly-veiled guise to reduce the jurisdictional scope of the wetlands program." He took issue with the proposal to give the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers more authority in deciding how and where development in wetlands can take place.

"We can only assume that giving more power to the Assistant Secretary of the Army will allow him to overrule important natural resource issues raised by other federal agencies," said Hair.

The Federation also maintained that the current permit process for development in wetlands, which allows a variety of federal agencies to make recommendations so that adverse effects are minimized, is working—by preventing the destruction of an estimated 300,000 acres of wetlands a year. Valuable habitats for wildlife, wetlands also recharge underground aquifers, reduce erosion and filter harmful pollutants from the nation's water system. Almost half of the wetlands in this country have already been lost to development, according to the NWF.

Fourteen other environmental groups signed onto the letter of protest to Vice President Bush. One of the signers, Dr. Janet Welsh Brown, executive director of the Environmental Defense Fund, said the proposed revisions "were reached through a process that circumvented even the rudimentary benefit-cost analyses mandated by the Reagan Administration. Consequently, they would have little effect on the costs to permit applicants, and they could severely under protection to the environment."

The other groups that signed the letter included: the Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Friends of the Earth, the Conservation Foundation, the Izaak Walton League of America, the American Rivers Conservation Council, the Environmental Policy Center, the Clean Water Action Project, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the American League of Anglers, the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, the American Fisheries Society, and Trout Unlimited.

Representatives from each group asked for a chance to meet with Vice President Bush to discuss the proposed revisions.

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WHERE PORGIES PLEASE

by Gerald Hahn

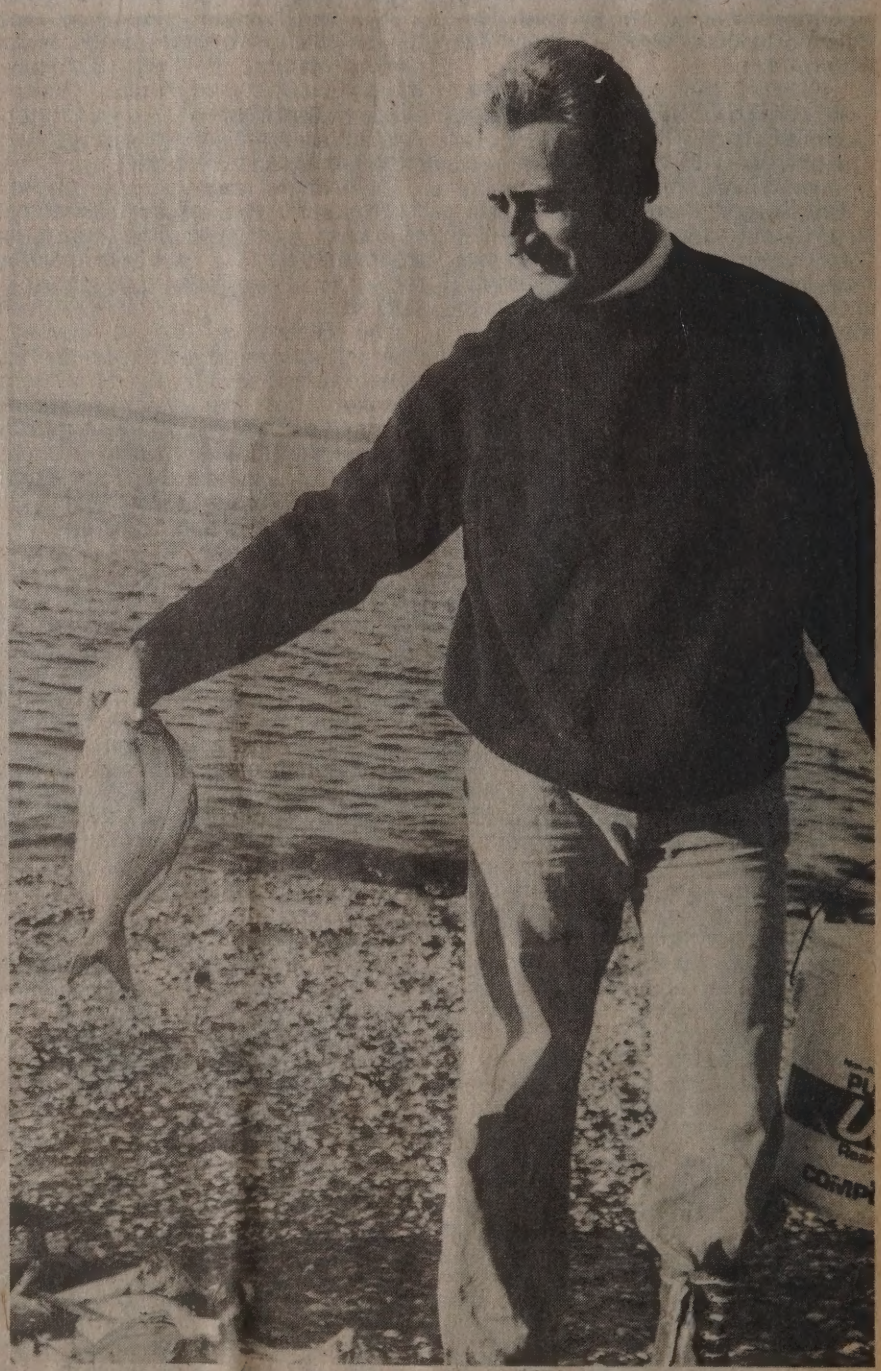
Long Island's North Fork provides sinker bouncers with an opportunity to sample some fine humpback porgy action from shore.

Surfcasters catch more porgies on the north shore than in any other part of Long Island, but where the largest porgies please is in the east end from Mattituck to Orient Point. Renowned for its snowshoe flounder and bulldog blackfish, the east end also harbors immense humpback porgies. One reason this area is so prolific is that Long Island Sound empties like a gigantic river mouth into Block Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean. At this turbulent confluence, names like "The Race," "Plum Gut," and "The Sluiceway," are well earned, for only the hardiest predators and bottom fish feed there. Moreover, although the east end superficially resembles other north shore beaches, with high cliffs in back and submerged rocks and mussel beds and rising boulders in front, it also sustains a unique marine life. For example, long leathery ribbons of brown kelp are continually washed ashore, and sea skates are frequent visitors here, as well. These and other marine plants and animals reveal the distinct influence of oceanic waters.

I seldom expect to catch great quantities of fish in the east end, although there are places where this is possible. I fish here primarily for large specimens. For this reason, I bring a 9' surf rod and a medium-sized surf spinning reel filled with 20 lb. test. A stout rod and heavy line are necessary for fishing in rock-strewn, rig-snaring, waters.

The rigs I use are also tailored to the east end's rough structure and exceptionally large fish. A hi-lo rig maintains hooks at different levels and separates the seaweed from the scup. The hooks, #1 Beaks or #6 Virginias, snelled with 12" leaders of 30 lb. test, are connected to dropper loops on the main line, or preferably to a leader of 30 lb. test. A barrel swivel connects the leader to the main line with two improved clinch knots, and an end loop secures a 3 or 4 oz. bank sinker below. Then the hooks are added: the bottom one to a dropper 3" to 6" above the sinker and the top hook to second dropper 13" to 15" above the first. These variations depend on the amount of vegetation in the water and on the bait's length. Moreover, in the event of a hopeless snag, several hundred feet of fishing line is saved.

Sea porgies have greater appetites and a more diversified diet than small porgies. To be sure, sand worms consistently attract scup of all sizes, but east end humpbacks are also fond of squid, clams, mussels, and even hermit crabs. Indeed, I would rate the last bait first. All these baits, however, should be rigged in greater amounts than when fishing for small porgies. One-by-two squid wedges, a generous slice of clam or gob of mussel, at least half a (decent sized) sand worm, or the soft tail section of a



A fine "humpback" taken from a Mattituck beach.

hermit, is effective. So are various combinations of the above, such as a worm/mussel or clam/hermit serving.

Humpback porgy fishing begins around late August or early September at Mattituck Inlet, and as the fish head east, they are caught all the way to Orient Point, a distance of about 25 to 30 miles. By mid-October, the fish move offshore and head for the Continental Shelf. Smaller fish are taken throughout the summer, although they also show up in the fall.

The angler who expects to catch large specimens is sometimes discouraged by the great school of small porgies around Mattituck Inlet. These fish, of course, are easily taken with light equipment—a 7' rod and 10 lb. test—since deep water is nearby and the fish stay close to the jetty rocks, primarily along the left (Sound) side of the west jetty and to a lesser extent, within the inlet. But when large porgies appear, jetty jockeys jockey for positions at the inlet's entrance. Heading east of the inlet, the beaches off the Oregon Hills are excellent, although access is limited. A good spot is a few blocks east of the inlet, near a large boulder opposite a water tower on the cliff. Numerous porgy spots are in the Southold to East Marion sector, at Horton's Point, Truman Beach, Rocky Point and Terry Point. Perhaps the best spot of all is at Mulford Point, about 1½ miles west of the Port of Egypt Fishing Station in Orient Point. Mulford is the last promontory on the north side and is marked by a dramatic cliff and countless stranded boulders in the water. Between Mulford Point and Port of Egypt is a sandy cove known as Petty's Bight, which is also excellent for porgies. East of the fishing station are more rocks, followed by a small cove and a fish trap, and finally, the rocks off Orient Point. At this far eastern sector I generally catch blackfish and flounder (which is certainly not a deficit), but it is worth exploring for porgies, as well. So is the sandy south side of this narrow strip of land, near the fish traps on this side and in the Orient Beach State Park area.

Long casts should be made to the vicinity of rising boulders and the rig allowed to settle on the bottom. After a few minutes, slowly crank the reel handle a few turns and pause again, until you locate the fish. If nothing happens after 20 minutes, move to a new spot and begin again. Try working the sandy bottom between the clusters of rocks as well. Sometimes reducing the sinker's weight increases catches, for the rig drags along the bottom and simulates a slow drift. Large porgies are particularly fond of a moving high hook.

The best fishing occurs around the turn of either tide, as soon as the current gets under way, and the porgies are generally more active in the early morning or late afternoon than in the middle of the day. Nevertheless, even daytime fishing is considerably improved by mid-August, for at this time northerly breezes move the bait inshore. When these breezes accelerate to gusts, however, you may as well stay home; that is, unless you prefer to harvest a crop of sea plants.

Several bait and tackle shops are located on the main road as you head east. Warren's in Aquebogue, Jamesport Bait and Tackle, Port of Egypt's main station in Southold, and Art White in Greenport, have up-to-date information and anything else you may require. If you're looking for hermit crabs, try Port of Egypt or the Mattituck Fishing Station near the inlet.

Although most of the fishing spots mentioned are easy to reach, some have restricted parking, and discretion should be used, especially before Labor Day. Some, like Mattituck Inlet, are difficult to locate, and, therefore, directions are given here. The inlet is reached by taking the Long Island Expressway east to the last exit and picking up Rt. 58 to Orient Point. This road feeds into Rt. 25, which is the main road to Orient. On Rt. 58, you will come to a circle drive followed by the Woolco Shopping Center on the right, and just past these landmarks is a traffic light. Make a left here onto Northville Turnpike, take it about 1/2 mile to Sound Avenue, and make a right. Within a few miles you will come to an intersection of several highways, and just before the intersection watch for Cox Neck Road on your left. Continue on Cox Neck Road for 2 miles to the Mattituck Fishing Station sign, which indicates a left turn. Make a left here and go past the entrance to the fishing station (unless you want to stop off there for supplies or information). Within a few blocks, you will reach a stop sign. Make a right and head into the parking area next to the inlet's west jetty.

The other places are easily reached by making left turns off Rt. 25. For example, a left turn on Youngs Avenue in Southold takes you to Horton's Point, and a left on Rocky Point Road in East Marion takes you to Rocky Point. Continuing east on the main road, the land narrows, and suddenly water is everywhere. Long Island Sound and Dam Pond are on the north side and Orient Harbor is on the south side. Just north of the pond is Truman Beach, which can be reached by making a left on any street between Stelenson Road and Back Lane. These streets also take you to Terry Point. In Orient, a left turn on Demarest Road leads to Mulford Point, and from here you can also work the western part of Petty's Bight. The eastern part is closer to Port of Egypt, which requires a left turn at the station sign, near the end of Rt. 25, and a quick right and another quick left. From here, you can also fish the eastern spots mentioned. Signs to the south side are clearly marked at the end of Rt. 25.

Explore this fascinating area, and soon you will agree that the east end is where the largest porgies please.

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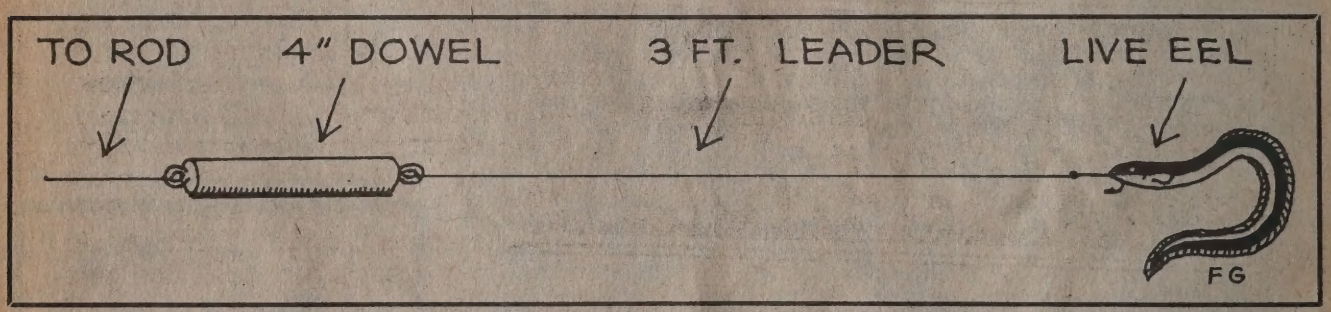
LIVE EELS, WAMPS AND STRANGERS IN THE NIGHT

by Jason Colby

I had been plugging a few bass for a few consecutive nights in a small rip near the Short Beach Coast Guard Station. I was alone, happy, content and fishless on this one particular night when Stanley came along. I said "Hello," and he greeted me with a loud "WAMP!" Now, I know Stanley well enough to know he isn't a heavy drinker, so I figured he was either up to something or had lost his mind. I was leaning towards the latter when I heard him mutter "wamp, wamp, wamp, etc.," at least a dozen times. I was starting to get worried when I realized he had tied something on his line that I had never seen before.



When I inquired about the contraption, all Stanley would say was "WAMP." What does it do? Again "WAMP!" He put a live eel on his rig and tossed it out and up-current. A few seconds later he dropped his tip and swing back, setting his rod in a deep bend while joyously yelling "WAMP!" Soon a 26 lb. bass was landed. It was shortly followed by three others. My plugs were not on the menu this night for sure and too soon the fish, Stanley and the "wamp" were gone.

For the rest of that night and for the following day I contemplated the wamp. What is it? Well, it's just a stick! Technically a dowel (1"x4") with a screw-eye in either end. It's not painted; it's not fancy—it's just a plain, ordinary piece of wood. Why use it? For one thing, the water in this rip was very shallow and the bottom very rocky. The wamp, with your line on one end and a three foot leader plus hook + live eel on the other provides optimum level and line tension. Also, a live eel alone is, at times, somewhat difficult to cast the necessary distance, but the weight of the wamp sends even the smallest "shoestring" to "paydirt."

I made a few wamps that day. I cut my dowels, placed my screw-eyes and put a drop or two of epoxy at their bases. That night, the bass didn't show up at all. Stanley was there and in that the fish weren't, he found it in him to say something other than "WAMP" (if he did it again, I would have had him committed). I learned that he brought the wamp back from Cape Cod where some people have used it for years with incredible success. His "performance" the night before was the first, to his knowledge, of anyone trying the "wamp" with live eels on Long Island.

Throughout that summer, and well into the fall, we caught fish on live eels both with and without the wamp. The method is very simple either way. The eel is cast up-tide from a jetty or in front of a rip (any place where free-flowing water is obstructed or diverted), and then very slowly retrieved. When your line has moved through a good arc (about 90° from your cast), reel in and start again, as a bass will rarely take a stationary eel (it should be sweeping down with the tide).

I recommend you use a 4/0 bronzed tuna hook and keep it super sharp. To hook your eel the "easy way," just flip it out of your pail and onto the sand. Now grab the eel behind the head along with a generous portion of sand and Mr. Slimy ain't goin' nowhere! Under the chin and out one eye is the best way and eels are cheap enough to always have at least a half dozen with you at all times.

When a big bass grabs a live eel, it is sometimes difficult to tell. To get started, keep your tip up and at the lightest tug, drop it to the water, take up all slack and strike! When the eel goes flying over your head, you'll know he just did a Hula-jig on your line and fooled you. It will probably take you a few bass hits to really distinguish between eel and bass activity on the end of your line. Many will be the times you will swear you had a hit. To verify, look at your eel under your necklight. A bass will leave scrapes as though he grabbed it with a piece of sandpaper, a weakfish will leave his fang-marks, and a bluefish will say "give me another eel to bite in half"—their favorite part being the tail half of your eel.

This fishing usually gets under way sometime in July (a few nights before the moon) and lasts until the end of the season. On those nights when it's super hot and windless, try going hip-boot style. If you are very uncomfortable, you can't fish too long and certainly not very effectively. The most important truth in all forms of bass fishing is putting in a lot of time.

A good trick that has proven very effective has been to tie a dropper fly to the swivel or to the wamp via a short leader which creates the appearance of your eel chasing a sand eel. I believe this can bring out the competitive instinct in a bass, as many times I've had the bass pass up the more substantial eel for the hardly significant sand eel imitation. The leader for the dropper should be 8" to 10" for a plain eel, and about 18" for a wamp eel.

A word of caution is in order for casters who wade around in the darkness of summer nights. Our beaches, inlets, and bays are home to many large species of sharks and rays which, while not really interested in you, should be treated with a heavy dose of respect. When wading, slide your feet from one step to the next to avoid landing atop a ray which could conceivably inflict some pain with it's weapon-like tail. Also, if you see a large fin (or something to that effect), try standing on or casting from somewhat higher turf for awhile. Only panic if it's absolutely necessary.

Oh, and by the way, Stanley finally did go crazy—he only fishes from a boat now!

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SUMMER FUN SPELLED

S-N-A-P-P-E-R-S

by Paul McCormick

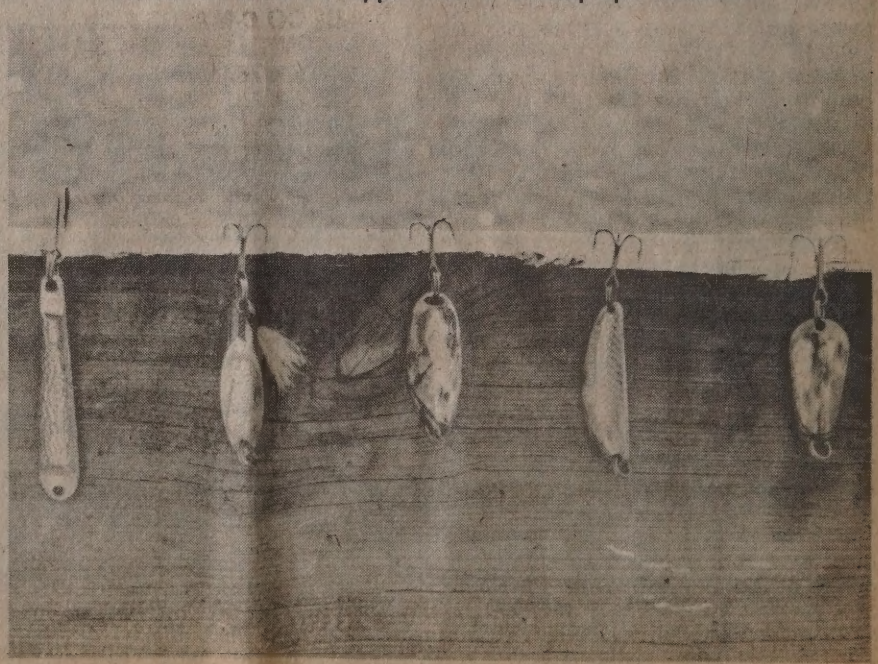
Toward the first part of August, the waters surrounding Long Island are invaded by baby bluefish, alias snappers. Many salt water fishermen started out fishing for snappers when they were just kids, but not only kids fish for these ferocious little blues. Plenty of adults spent their time down at the neighborhood dock fishing for snappers.

The season gets underway toward the end of July and is usually in high gear by the second week in August, finally subsiding by the end of September. Snappers resemble their parents in most aspects except in size, of course, and in my opinion, taste! Their size varies depending upon the time of the season. At the start of the run they are small, usually between four and five inches long, but by the end of the season they reach a length of 12 to 15 inches, and attain weights of nearly a pound.

What makes snapper fishing so appealing is that the fish are almost always able to be located close to home and a minimal amount of tackle is all that is needed. Almost every dock and marina surrounding Long Island holds its share of snappers, which for the most part are easy to catch if the right tackle and techniques are applied. As far as rods are concerned one can catch snappers with a simple cane pole and a few feet of line and a float, or with a light spinning or spin-cast outfit. The main advantage of a casting outfit over a cane pole is that it allows the fisherman to cast artificials to the fish. Small spinning reels similar to the Penn 716, 714, and 722 should be used in conjunction with a light five- to six-and-a-half foot spinning rod. Line can be from four on up to eight pound test.

Snappers will hit an amazing variety of baits, but the two most popular are killies and spearing (silversides). These baits can be easily obtained in most tackle shops or by trapping your own. Try to get and use them as fresh as possible; you'll find that they'll be more appealing and will stay on the hook for a longer period of time. I would suggest that you bring along both varieties of bait just in case the fish are picky. Baiting up is very important so that the bait is presented in a natural manner. What I mean is try not to weave the hook in and out of the body five or six times so that it curls up like a lifeless ball. The hook should

The author lands a snapper from a Massapequa bulkhead.



These small, shiny, metal lures will all produce their share of snappers. The Sidewinder, second from right is a real fish getter.

be passed through the mouth and out the gills so that the point never pierces the fish. I have found this method very successful and when using live bait, it stays alive for a longer period of time.

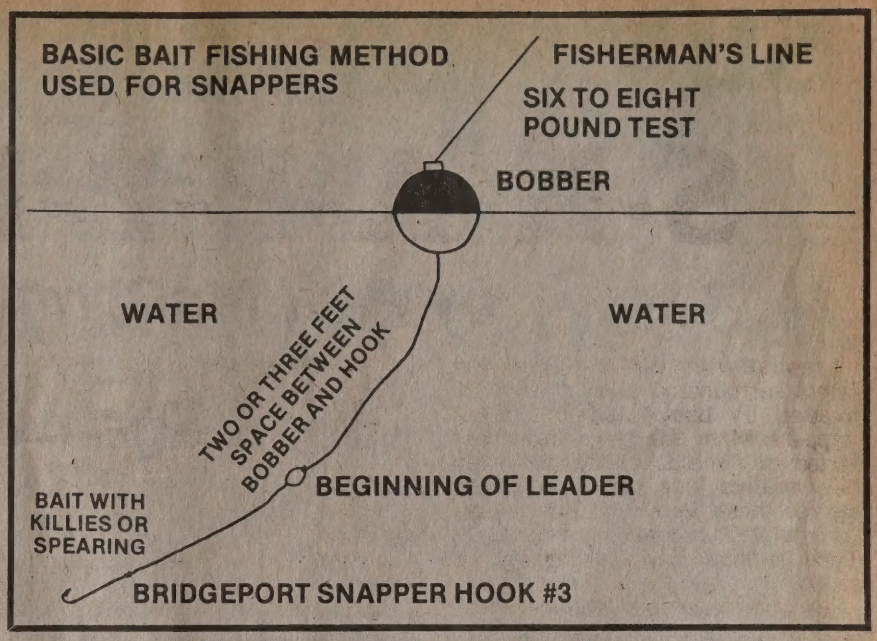
On the terminal end of the line, hooks for snapper fishing should be the Bridgeport snapper hook #3. This is a long shanked hook that permits the fisherman to easily remove the hook from the mouth of a snapper without being bitten.

Snapper rigs are made up of two hooks—one long shank and one short—clipped on to a piece of wire with two spinner blades. The bait should be hooked through the eyes with the short shanked hook, and through the tail or midsection with the long shanked hook, the spinner blades help to attract snappers to the bait. A bobber or float is usually placed two to three feet above the hook to signal the fisherman when the snapper has found the bait. Tie your line directly to the snelled hook (these hooks come snelled) with an improved clinch knot.

After you have made your cast, watch the bobber very carefully. A snapper will not usually take the bait at first but will most likely just play with it. This will be transmitted to the bobber, which will be seen bouncing around but not totally going under the surface. When the snapper decides to take the bait the bobber will be pulled under; this is the time to strike. Do not strike hard; a slight tap will usually set the hook. Don't set the bobber too high above the hook or it's likely you will catch a toadfish (hacklehead) or some other bait stealer. Often small weakfish are caught along with the snappers and should immediately be released if under 12 inches. These can be distinguished from snappers by their square tails (rather than forked like the snappers'), and by their bright yellow fins.

Another method of catching snappers is to remove the bobber and attach the snapper rig. Two or three small rubber core sinkers for additional weight can also be attached to the line. This should be cast out and retrieved using various speeds.

A totally different way to fish for snappers is with the use of artificials. I have found artificials to be highly efficient and even more productive than bait most times. For me, artificials provide a much more sporty and exciting way to take these fish. A wide variety can be used with much success. I have had a lot of success with small tins and plugs such as small Hopkins, Kastmasters, Sidewinders, Wobblers, Johnson Sprites, and Rapalas. All should be tied directly to your line with an improved clinch knot. They should be cast out and retrieved at a fairly fast pace. Other speeds should also be tried if the fast retrieve is not productive. I have also found out that these lures are deadly when skipped across the surface of the water. If there are any



snappers within a few yards of your lure they will usually come right to the top of the water and smash it—sometimes in mid-air.

This is a sight worth seeing. I have also been experimenting with small freshwater poppers. I have had success with the 3/16 ounce Fred Arbogast Hula Popper. This plug floats and should be retrieved with small twitches of the rod tip, creating a popping noise. When the snappers hear this noise they quickly rise to the surface and will usually attack the plug. This is a very exciting way to fish for snappers and is my personal favorite.

Snappers appeal to all sorts of fishermen, both young and old. They are relatively simple to catch and provide some exciting light tackle fishing. Make sure you cash in on the action this summer, and have some real fun!

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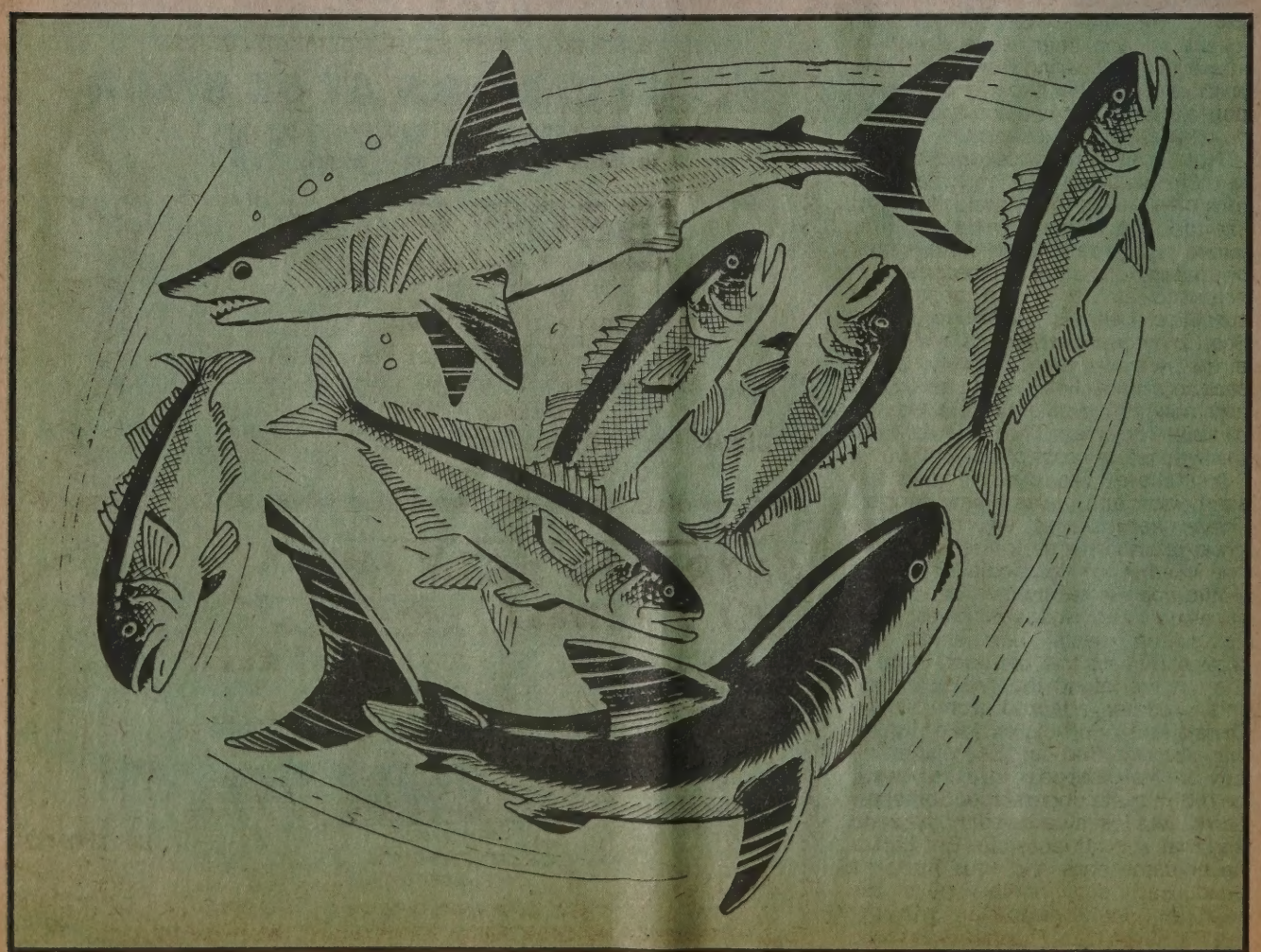
WOLF PACK

A Short Story in Serial

Part Two—*by William A. Muller*

It was early July and the young of the year blues were now three inches long. There was no doubt that their rate of growth was very fast, and thus, they had to consume vast quantities of food to meet the needs of a rapid metabolism. At times their appetite seemed beyond bounds and throughout all the frenzied feeding binges there was the reality of death. The school hadn't lost many of its members, but to Okosta each loss was a hard one and reminded him of the caution he knew was needed in order to survive. However, up to this point in time, the main danger came from weakfish, small bass, and eels. The school had learned to handle these dangers rather well: they learned quickly where the dangerous places were in the creek and what the danger signs were prior to attack. Okosta remained with the school because of these learned behaviors and he convinced himself that the school would be successful in spite of its early awkwardness.

However, in these early and hot days of July the bait had thinned in the deep back water parts of the estuary and the schools of blues had moved towards the inlet where the creek fed the big bay. A lot of bait was gathered here over the sandy bars that rose to crests between the troughs. There were large schools of spearing, sand eels, killies, and from time to time, a large school of one inch menhaden, or bunker. The little blues loved these baby bunker and little did they realize that these early sporadic experiences would become a dominant scenario in their lives as adults. There was something about the bunker. Yes, it was oily, and yes, it was strong, but to the blues there was something gratifying in the kill and that made the otherwise acrid taste sweeter somehow. The blues were three inches and the bunker an inch or so, and the bunker were deep-bodied unlike the slender spearing and sand eels. Thus, these bunker were not as easy to kill as the other baits, and, to make matters worse, their schooling behavior could be baffling to young and inexperi-



enced blues. The bunker school would turn sharply and in unison and the color of the bunker school would change from soft grey to a sudden wall of silver. It was hard to concentrate on one individual and a small predator was easily distracted. These bunker also swam very close together and that, too, was tricky. There was too much motion, too many bodies, and too many decisions to be made too quickly.

One fish could not succeed against these spooky, but well adapted baitfish. Yet, somewhere deep within Okosta there was a sense of species knowledge to handle these bunker. It wasn't clear, but it was there. The school had worked together on the spearing schools on several occasions, although typically the only skill required to catch one or two was to dart into them and chop at random. However, Okosta remembered one day when the spearing were scattered after they had been raided by another school of baby blues or snappers. The spearing were regrouping but the impatient snappers that swam with Okosta didn't wait for them to regroup and thus, before they could settle down into a pattern where they would be more vulnerable to attack, the snappers charged in. The spearing had no trouble evading the wild runs of the blues. Then one of his brothers, he thought afterwards that it was Inffa, swam in a circle around the spearing, thus driving them into a tight group. Okosta, seeing this, joined in and then several others attacked the spearing from below and successfully. The experience lasted only a moment or two and thus made no permanent impression.

Now a bunker school approached and Okosta swam over to Inffa, then took off towards the school. He swam around the school. Inffa joyfully joined in. To the delight of the school of snappers, the bunker became disoriented and the well organized schooling behavior began to erode. Soon there were stragglers and some of the blues ate them greedily. Other snappers mimicked Okosta and Inffa and now the bunker school was in complete disarray. The sweet taste of the first real success of the wolf pack.

Yet there was danger on these sandy bars and it was a new danger. These were places where another great predator came to feed and this one was not very particular. This one would happily eat bunker, sand eels, spearing, and snapper blues with equal enthusiasm; and unlike the weaks and bass that harassed them in the channel along the grassy banks, this predator attacked from below. Okosta knew nothing of fluke, but he was about to find out. Even when he saw Laftka disappear into the sand, he didn't quite understand. Somehow Laftka was just swallowed by the sand and that was not possible. But Laftka never came back and thus must be dead. Each day another one of his relatives would disappear into the

(Continued on next page.)

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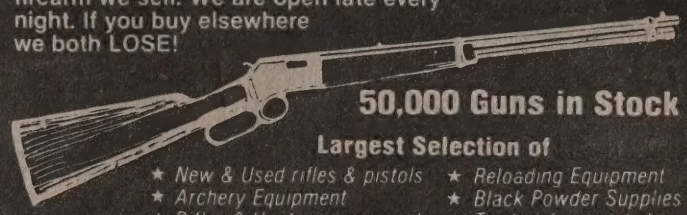
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sand and still without any explanation. Then, in mid-July Okosta was chasing a sand eel along the surface of the sand near the crest of a long, thin sand bar when his forward motion was stopped and he felt teeth sink into his tail. The predator had only a small hold on the bottom (ventral) surface of the rear of the body near the anal fin. Instinct took over from reason and Okosta simply tried to swim as hard as he could. Finally he felt his flesh tear and he was free. He bled only slightly from this very muscular portion of his body and he was lucky to have lost only a piece of flesh about the size of a pencil eraser. If it did not become infected and if parasites did not invade the wound, then he would survive.

The week following the attack by the fluke was a difficult one for Okosta. The attack weakened him and, therefore, he did not eat as well as he should have and his growth lagged behind. However, he was strong and the gash healed over in about ten days, but left a crescent-shaped notch behind his anal fin. Ultimately, the injury caused him no loss of strength, speed or power, but the experience and near-miss with the fluke taught him a valuable lesson. His level of cautious behavior, already heightened by the experiences of his early youth and his high intelligence, now took a quantum jump.

The remaining days of the summer proceeded without incident for Okosta, although he did learn much everyday. The large weakfish thinned in the bays and the smaller ones that came during the heat of summer were no match for the five and six inch snappers. The fluke moved off into deeper water and the threat from them diminished greatly. However, in August there was something new and this time the predator was not in the water, but beyond it! Okosta's school had moved into the remote back water portion of the estuary in late July, but again they followed the bait towards the inlet to the bay in early August and when they did there were places where dead spearing hung suspended in the water. The dead fish appeared to be attached to something and that was not natural to Okosta. Most often there were round, floating things above the dead spearing that seemed to keep the dead fish from drifting with the tide. In some places these apparatus numbered in the dozens and they had not been there in early summer and there was something definitely not right. These food offerings were easy because they did not swim away, but that, too, was not natural. On several occasions Okosta looked at these carefully and was tempted to strike; but he did not because he remembered the lessons of the weakfish and the fluke—he must be cautious.

Not all of his friends and relatives were as cautious and each day he watched as the young blues were hoisted out of the water after they struck the dead spearing. These blues never came back and these observations reinforced in Okosta's mind that the dead fish were not normal. He tried, through animated behavior displays, to warn his relatives and friends against the easy food that was suspended from red and orange floats. Some obeyed, but many others did not, and the ones that disregarded his warnings were pulled from the sea and were never seen again. Okosta grew more confident each day as the leader of the school and in his ability to avoid actions that could lead to his death, but even Okosta did not know everything about everything. Then the day came when he spied food ahead. It was shiny and wiggling as it if were injured and true to form, it was heading for the surface near the sod bank that lined the inlet to the bay. The water was a little murky following an overnight heavy thunderstorm and so the prey in front of him was disappearing into the murky brown ahead. He would have to decide now: attack or turn off. He was hungry and that alone was enough to decide in favor of attack. He rushed the prey and within a fraction of a second was close enough to strike. He opened his mouth for the final lunge and as his tail thrust him forward, a chill went through him. There was something unnatural about this prey. Still, he was committed to strike.

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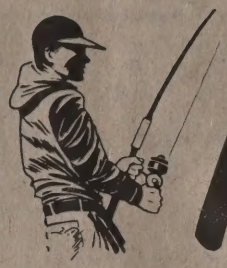

The FISHERMAN

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Anyone is eligible to enter **The Fisherman Skillful Angling Award Program.** Anglers meeting the required minimum weights for the species listed below will receive a certificate and patch. Fish must be weighed at an **Official Fisherman Weigh Station.**

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INSHORE BOTTOM FISH

Species	Min. Wt.
Flounder	2
Blackfish	5
Codfish	30
Fluke	5

INSHORE GAME FISH

Species	Min. Wt.
Striped Bass	30
Bluefish	15
Weakfish	10
Pollack	20

OFFSHORE BIG GAME

Species	Min. Wt.
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Mako Shark	200
White Marlin	65
Swordfish	100

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Species	Min. Wt.
Brown Trout	3
Brook Trout	2
Rainbow Trout	2
Largemouth Bass	4

You must be a paid subscriber to **The Fisherman** at the time fish is caught to be eligible for the **Sport Fishing Award and Release Award Programs.** Contest runs from May 1 through December 15. Entries received after December 31st will be disqualified. An incomplete entry blank may result in disqualification of your catch. The editorial staff of **The Fisherman** reserves the right to award prizes as they see fit. All decisions are final.

TWELVE HELPFUL HINTS

by Matt Ahern

A dozen tips garnered from a life-time of angling experience designed to help you at the fishing game.

Over the years I've gathered a goodly number of fishing hints. Some are the results of my own observations, and some I've received from fishing buddies. Those deemed worthwhile I enter into a notebook; and quite a fat notebook it has become. Then, once or twice a year (because I'm a stickler for order), I bring these entries up-to-date. Those which pertain to specific types of angling and which are no longer practical, such as drop line fishing, for instance, I remove and keep separate. This keeps everything shipshape.

Several years ago I had a wild idea. I selected an even dozen hints I thought would be most helpful for beginning fishermen. I wrote these into an article and was surprised at the favorable comments. Because of this I thought now would be a good time for a repeat. I have revised my comments where I felt doing so would be more helpful; but all in all, they remain basically the same.

I'm sure these hints will make your fishing day easier and more enjoyable; they may even help you overcome some vexing problems, problems that could take much time and possibly cold, hard cash to resolve. Not every hint will apply at every moment of your fishing day, but rest assured that those which apply at the time will certainly help you avoid pitfalls we all fall heir to when we just don't know what comes next—which, of course, is nothing to fret about, for who among us knows all the answers?

1. A moving bait is more attractive to most saltwater fish than one which is sinker-weighted in one spot.

Comment: The only two bottom-feeding fish I'd say this doesn't apply to would be the cod and the blackfish. There have been rare occasions when I've caught cod on jigged bait, but these times were so few and far between, we can safely dispense with the idea. Failure to fish a dead line for blackfish is, in my opinion, the height of folly. In fact, only once have I caught a decent-sized blackfish while jigging bait—and then I was sea bass fishing at the time. Both cod and blackfish (particularly the blackfish) are highly suspicious and I can only tell you that if you wish to be successful with these fish, it is to your advantage to let that bait lie still.

2. When fishing for sea bass, porgies, and blackfish and anchored over a wreck or rock pile, it isn't necessary to cast away from neighboring fishermen. This will not give you any advantage. The fish are under the boat and casting will put your bait out of reach.

Comment: Most beginning anglers know this, but I've included this hint because I've seen fishermen who have thought otherwise. These fellows seem to think that when fishing such places the fish are all around the area, not just in one selected spot. This, of course, is not so. That wreck or rock pile may be the only obstruction on the sea floor for an acre or more. In the case of wrecks, it may be the only one around for miles. These places contain needed food and shelter and the fish will not leave their sanctuary to investigate your bait, even if it is but a mere ten feet away. Particularly does this apply to blackfish when wreck fishing on the offshore grounds. The skipper, through knowledge and skill, has placed his boat over the fish.

3. When sea fishing, for ease and comfort, it is best to use a rod that is not over a foot longer than your height. Long rods can be backbreakers for beginning fishermen and will not help land fish any faster than short ones.

Comment: This rule of thumb has been around for a long time and it is pretty reliable for the fisherman who is tackle shopping for the first time and may understandably be confused by the array of rods available. I'm aware, too, that many fishermen use surf fishing rods for codfishing. They claim it gives the advantage of getting out just a bit farther than their neighbor at the rail. Perhaps so, but whether it helps them land more cod is a moot question. I am reminded of the old-timers with their drop lines who managed to outfish the rod fishermen. I guess it all boils down to what the fisherman knows about the life-style of his quarry, rather than owning the lastest dream of the tackle manufacturer.

4. Buy the best reel you can afford and take good care of it.

Comment: A quality reel can be likened to a fine watch: both are instruments of precision and need care if they are to perform with complete satisfaction for any length of time. Follow the reel manufacturer's recommendations to a T, and don't discard those instructions included with every good reel. That slip of paper will tell you exactly what you need know in order for that reel to give you the years of service you have every right to expect. Should anything go wrong with your reel, either send it off to the maker's repair agent, or take it to a tackle shop that repairs your type of reel. Unless you know today's reels pretty well, don't attempt repairs yourself. Be especially careful about not getting sand or grit in the reel's internal workings. If you are careless, you'll soon know it as you hear the grains grate or grind while turning the reel handle. Spinning reels will often give off a bell-like sound. The only solution is to relubricate at the earliest opportunity; certainly before you use it again. Incidentally, make it a practice to release the drag's mechanism between fishing trips. Your reel's smooth drag action will last much longer when you do.

5. When planning your trip, always assemble your tackle and paraphernalia the night before. (If you're like me, you'll have it ready days ahead.) Look your gear over carefully so that when you get away early the following morning, you will not have left anything behind.

Comment: That sounds like common sense, and because it does, fishermen being human will rely on memory to take over. But don't you do it—at least until you have several fishing trips under your belt. Instead, make out a checklist and allow ample time in the morning to go over it. Especially does this apply if you have stored your bait in the freezer. I would suggest you write the word "BAIT" in large red letters at the bottom of your list. Bait is the one important item most often left behind. Seeing that crimson word glaring at you early in the morning will certainly shake the cobwebs from your sleep-drugged brain and get you double-checking the rest of the equipment.

6. A small pair of pliers capable of cutting wire (or a hook shank) is a must for your tackle box. Also a hook hone or finely serrated small file for touching up those hooks that become snagged on bottom obstructions will come in handy.

Comment: I would not hone a hook more than once; it is better to discard and use a new one. Doing this may save you a big fish one day in the future. Nor will it hurt to carry a bit of recommended lubricant for your reel

and a small screwdriver.

7. Never lend your favorite rod and reel to anyone.

Comment: It may hurt to refuse such a request, but it is likely to hurt you more when you get that rod and reel back. I've done this lending bit several times—always with sad results. A word to the wise is sufficient.

8. Give your rod(s) the once-over occasionally. Wrappings and guides do become loose and ferrules and reel seats wobbly.

Comment: It is a good idea to carry a tube of ferrule cement in your tackle box. This stuff costs but pennies and one tube will last for years. Lacking the cement, temporary repairs can be made by heating the affected parts with a match. A roll of good grade electrician's tape is a handy thing to have along. Use it for quick, temporary repair on any loose windings, especially on guides and tiptop. Rewind permanently at home or have the tackle shop do it for you.

9. When hooks or sinkers become caught in rocks or wreckage, they can sometimes be dislodged if the line is tightened and allowed to snap back suddenly. It doesn't work every time, but it is worth the try.

Comment: Resign yourself to the fact that when you fish such areas, you are likely to lose a certain amount of terminal tackle. Not only is it important to carry spare hooks and sinkers, but it is also important not to waste time freeing a snagged rig. You are out there to fish, not spend valuable time fussing and fretting. If your snagged rig cannot be freed with the above method, lay your rod aside and grasp the line and pull with steady pressure. Be careful you don't get the line entwined about your hand—you may receive a good, deep cut if you do. If you're lucky, you may salvage a hook or sinker. Never apply pressure with the rod—and never burn or cut the line at the tip unless you have plenty of extra line along and don't care about expense. If you are fishing in deep water, doing this will quickly deplete the line on your reel.

10. Should a hooked fish carry your rig into an obstruction, allow it time to swim free before you use heavy-handed methods.

Comment: You can usually tell if your fish is still hooked: you'll feel it trying to dislodge the hook by backing off and tugging. Allow slack and hope for the best. I'll tell you right now that there are few times when this is successful. But it does work on occasion and is worth trying. Blackfish are notorious for doing this; so be prepared by starting the fish before it has the opportunity to pour on the steam and head for the worst part of the obstruction—which it will certainly do if given the least chance.

11. Whenever possible, clean your fish aboard your party boat, or at the dock. It will save much extra work later.

Comment: Fish cleaning aboard party boats was common years ago, but gradually some skippers are putting restrictions on this. If you think you might possibly enjoy fish cleaning at sea, I would suggest you check before going aboard. Not only will you avoid having a mess at home, plus the problem of getting rid of the waste, but fish cleaned and washed in sea water most certainly have better flavor than those cleaned at home where only tap water is available.

12. Night crawlers, common earthworms, and red worms often make an excellent substitute for sand and bloodworms.

Comment: Night crawlers are particularly good in this respect. I've had extremely good flounder fishing with these large squirmers. At times, they can be very appealing to the finny population. A buddy of mine told me he's caught several weakfish on night crawlers. I've tried it on his say-so, but never managed so much as a hit—but I put it down here for what it's worth.

So, there you have a dozen fishing hints that will help you in the beginning of your fishing career. There is nothing here that experienced fishermen do not know and have used over and over again. These hints will help you become a better and more knowledgeable fisherman if you put them to use.

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DIAMONDS & GOLD

by Andy Regina

A strange set of circumstances conspire to keep the author from connecting with a tiderunner.

Summer on Long Island Sound can be beautiful. The water is calm and the weather idyllic—bright, sunny days with gentle, balmy breezes, warm temperatures and clear, blue skies. The only thing that can ruin this perfect picture is the fact that usually the water temperature of the Sound gets a little too warm, and fishing can get awfully slow, to say the least. Bottom bouncers scratch out a few small flounders and a stray blackfish or two, but the bulk of them concentrate on trying to catch those spunky little sand porgies that seem to show a preference for the warmer water that has chased the flounders and blacks elsewhere. The sport fisherman seeking game fish such as bluefish, striped bass and weakfish also has his problems. The bulk of that fishing is done at night now or in the early morning and late evening, as the action ceases with the increased heat of the day and the ever increasing boat traffic that such beautiful weather encourages.

So, to keep from flipping out completely, you either chase bluefish around the Sound in the morning, keeping your eyes peeled for the diving terns that signal surface feeding activity, or soak live baits at night for striped bass off some known productive point or over an underwater reef. If you get lucky you can even tie into some weakfish at night, usually in the rips off those same points and reefs . . . if the tide is right, and if the bait is around, and if the fish are feeding, and if it is quiet enough—a whole lot of "if's" that can and do occur at times, making for some dynamite fishing.

All fishermen should have the happy dilemma Sam Diamond faces as he tries to select his largest fish to enter in the boat pool.

Boats fishing during the late evening and night were racking up lots of weakfish near Diamond Point and off Eaton's Neck, inside buoy 13. Bluefish boats on round-the-clock schedules had been catching many large weakfish on the diamond jigs employed to fool hungry bluefish, and private craft were doing a job on Rebel plugs, diamond jigs and whole, live sandworms. Aboard the Ever Ready at Huntington Harbor early one Sunday morning for a shot at bluefish, I was told of exceptional catches of weakfish enjoyed by passengers the previous night. One passenger I knew from previous trips came on board, unkempt, unshaven, and bleary-eyed. He raved about the great weakfish success he had enjoyed during the night, casting Rebel plugs from his own boat. To add to my frustration, I boarded the North Star in City Island one morning later in that same week, and was literally overwhelmed with vivid descriptions of that boat's fantastic haul of weakfish made during the previous night. To make the cheese more binding, one of the regulars opened the fish box and showed me a mess of big weakfish, gutted and iced down, that he had caught aboard that boat on the night trip—fish that he had caught on live sandworms and tube-rigged diamond jigs.

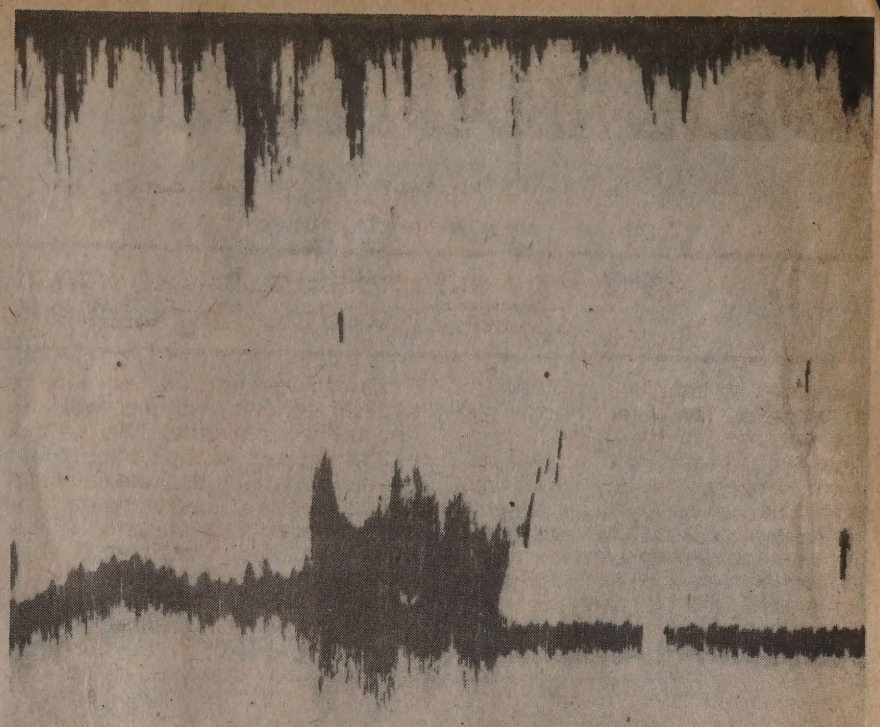
Muttering to myself about my uncanny knack for never being in the right place at the proper time, I consoled myself with the fact that some weaks were regularly taken during daylight also, on worm baits fished high above bottom-fishing porgy rigs. Though not nearly the leap-jobs enjoyed at night, where everyone aboard concentrated on fishing specifically for weakfish, enough weaks were caught by day, by those fishing primarily for porgies. The daily boat pool was usually decided by one of those daytime weakfish, by the way, so I settled for what I considered better than no chance at all. I resolved to enjoy myself with porgies while depending on luck to steer some hungry weaks to that worm-baited high hook I was

gonna use. Other anglers, perhaps far wiser than I could ever hope to be, were content to fish with only that high hook, forsaking the fun that the porgies could provide. I guess I'm funny though, 'cause I like to go fishing to have fun, and to me that means catching fish. I guess I just don't have the patience better fishermen than I possess, and I gotta get in on the action or bust!

This is also the problem I have with trying to take photos to illustrate my stories; I'm told to forsake the hot and heavy action with my fishing rod, and use that time to photograph the action instead. I swear, as many times as I've tried it, I get so caught up in the excitement that not only do I ruin the pictures but lose out on some dynamite fishing to boot. Now I try to concentrate on catching my fish first, not that I'm a glutton or anything like that, but once I put a few fish in the pail, it seems that I can concentrate on my darned photos with a fresh head instead of trying to rush everything. This creates another problem though, 'cause usually by the time I'm ready to photograph the fishing action things have slowed down considerably. Once, determined to concentrate solely on photographs, I left my rod and reel at home, figuring that this way I wouldn't be tempted, but it didn't work out either. I begged a rod from the captain, who only relented because he said he couldn't stand to see a grown man cry, and blew the action photos again!

That morning, headed out east into the Sound on the North Star, I resolved to concentrate on photography again. The rod, rigged and ready, was only to catch a couple of porgies in between peak periods of fishing action. As we slid past Matinecock and headed toward Lloyd's or Eaton's, the scenes of yesterday's action, I had a lot of time to think, and I thought about weakfish.

Our weakfish (Cynoscion regalis) is a well-shaped, truly beautiful fish, one of our most colorful inshore game fish. Its color along the dorsal surface or upper part of the body is usually dark olive or green, or greenish blue, and its sides are burnished in tones of blue, green, purple and lavender, with a coppery or burnished gold tinge to it. The back and upper sides are peppered with small, vaguely defined spots of black, dark green and, sometimes, bronze. Some of these spots often run together to form irregular lines that extend diagonally downward and forward. This spotting is confined mostly to the upper part of the body, and the underside is white or silvery. The fish has a large mouth, a somewhat pointed snout, and a lower jaw that projects beyond its upper jaw. A predator in every sense of the word, weakfish mouths feature fang-like, canine teeth that are used to seize live prey and maintain a grasp on it. The tail is well developed, with a slightly concave outer edge, and the fins are all a dusky color with yellow



Recorder readout shows mass of fish and bait located north of Eaton's Neck.

tinges along the outer edges, which is probably why this fish is also fondly known as "Old Yellowfin" by many fishermen.

Also known as squeateague and seatrout, weakfish range the eastern seaboard from New England to Florida, with the largest populations concentrated between the Chesapeake Bay region and New York and New Jersey. Within their range, these fish can be found in the surf and in sounds, inlets, bays, channels, and saltwater creeks. They are a schooling fish by nature, and show a marked preference for shallow areas featuring sand-bottom. Extremely cyclic, we have happily experienced a renaissance of these fish during this past decade, prior to which they had been conspicuous by their absence since their heydays of the late '30s.

The natural diet of the weakfish consists of sea worms of all types, shrimp, squid, sand lance (sand eels), crabs, and mollusks, and includes small baitfish such as silversides (spearing), killifish (killies), butterfish and young menhaden (bunker). Because of this widely varied diet, weakfish seek prey at different levels of the water during the course of their feeding. Frequently feeding at the surface or close to it, they can be found at intermediate levels as well as directly on the bottom or close to it. In other words, wherever the available food supply of the moment may happen to be located.

This is what often makes fishing for weakfish a problem, as you could be fishing out of the strike zone, so to speak, either far below or too high above actively feeding fish. Here a good depth recorder is imperative, either a flasher type that could spot feeding fish by the size and intensity of the flash or a good chart recorder that could more graphically illustrate school sizes and exact feeding levels by the scratches etched upon the paper by the stylus.

Once properly located, we are faced with another problem that makes fishing for this species such a challenge: the diversity of methods and techniques that can be employed in their pursuit. To complicate matters, weakfish are susceptible to a wide variety of lures as well as that extensive assortment of baits they seek in a natural state. Lure fishermen could probe upper stratas of water as well as deeper levels by trolling umbrella rigs, which resemble pods of sand eels to the voracious weakfish, or single tubes that may look like a large sand eel, or sea worm, or even an eel. Trolled spoons impersonate small bunker or butterfish, or any one of many small fish that weakfish also feed on, and these spoons also work well at times, especially when they duplicate sizes of predominant baitfish.

Casters have their choice of a wide variety of lures, any of which could be the "hot" one at any given time. Plugs of all types are good, as are spoons, bucktail jigs, diamond jigs, and those deadly plastic-tails. Or they can drift baits such as live worms or strips of squid, which can also be fished deep or on the very bottom, especially when employed on those hi-lo rigs that present two natural baits at the same time, one directly on bottom and the other perhaps two or three feet about that. Because they respond readily to chum, many fishermen prefer to drift natural baits into chumslicks of ground bunker or grass shrimp, using the baits des-

(Continued on next page.)

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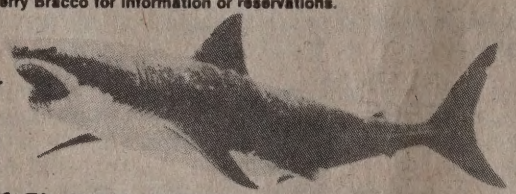
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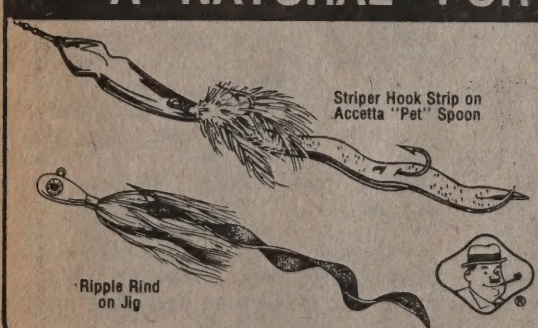

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cribed above or even a few grass shrimp impaled on the hook. As a kid growing up in the Bronx, I'd often seine some grass shrimp in Eastchester Creek for use as chum and bait, and row over to Hart Island where I'd anchor and set up a slick by dribbling a few shrimp at a time over the side. Here the trick was to pinch the shrimp first, crippling them so that they couldn't hide under your boat, and to fish float-buoyed lines about 50 feet into the current behind the boat, where it usually did not take too long for some hungry tiderunner to belt your hook.

Jolted out of my reverie by the abrupt halt of the boat's engines, I saw that we had arrived at Eaton's Point, and that the mates were already engaged in dropping the anchor. Sneaking worm-baited hooks over the rail, I was soon busy catching porgies, as was almost everyone else. When I had about 12 porgies in my pail, I set my rod against the rail and uncased my camera, determined to photograph some action with the porgies and weakfish. Well, I got plenty of porgy action that day, but nobody caught a weakfish at all. That is, not until it had gotten late in the day and was fast approaching our normal departure time.

Concerned because no weakfish had been caught, the skipper moved the boat into deeper water, figuring that the weakfish may have been feeding offshore a bit during the change in tide. As it turned out, his hunch was proven correct, first by the fantastic printout of the chart recorder, then by the happy passengers that soon were tied into the battling beauties. The fish belted sandworms on those high hooks with abandon, and I once again got so caught up in the excitement that my camera was set aside as I tried to horn in on the action.

Seeing all those big, beautiful weakfish being caught by my fellow passengers had me shaking like a kid on his first date, but the best I could manage was a couple of runoffs. My worms kept getting sheared off at the hook while the guy right next to me caught three or four fish, one right after the other! Realizing that I had to get that fantastic action on film, I dropped my rod and grabbed my camera, but, as usual, it was too late. The fish stopped biting as abruptly as they had started, and the three blasts of the boat whistle told me I had blown it once again. Resigned to taking some posed photos, figuring that they would be better than no photos at all, a crazy thought ran through my mind.

Maybe I just wasn't meant to catch weakfish after all. The fish are suckers for a diamond jig, we had been fishing off Diamond Point, the guy that had caught all those fish right next to me was named Sam Diamond, and weakfish have a golden color . . . Could there be some mysterious connection between diamonds and gold?

AUGUST ACTION

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE JERSEY COAST SHARK ANGLERS WILL HOLD THEIR 1ST ANNUAL OFF-SHORE TOURNAMENT AUG. 20-21-22 OUT OF CLARK'S LANDING MARINA, POINT PLEASANT - *WITH $10,500 IN PRIZES* FOR TUNA AND MARLIN. FOR INFO, WRITE: *JCSA, 425 LINCOLN AVE. PT. PLEASANT, N.J. 08242* OR CALL (201) 295-3624 OR (201) 920-9678.

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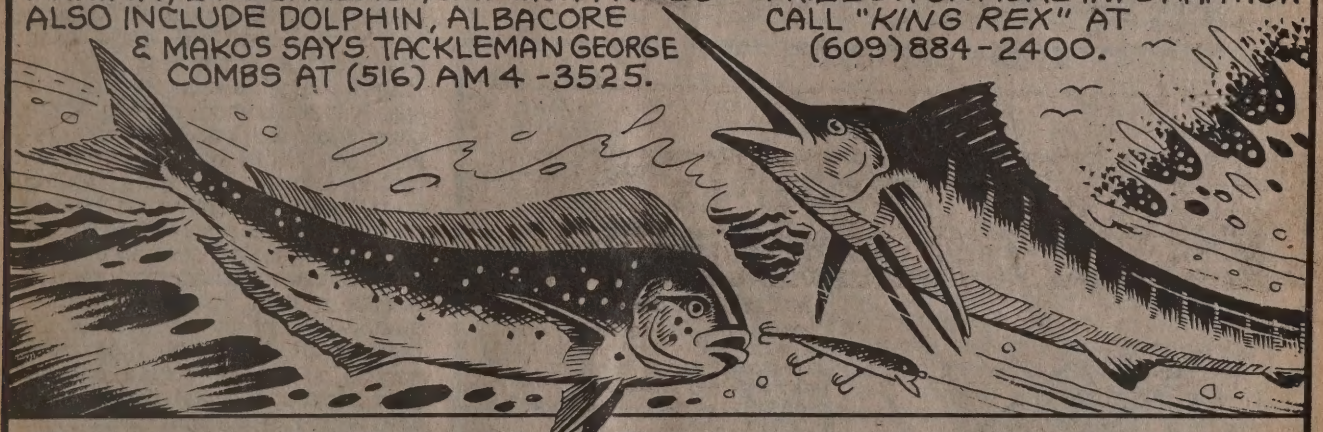


5TH ANNUAL OVERNIGHT *SWORDFISH AND MARLIN OPEN TOURNAMENT* FROM OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY, AUG. 11-12-13. CONTACT JOE PORRECA, 1016 TURNER AVE., DREXEL HILL, PENN. 19026

THE FARMINGTON RIVER, CONN. PRODUCED TWO *SPORTS AFIELD STATE FISHING AWARDS*... A 2 LB. 10 OZ. BROOK TROUT FOR LENNY CARLSON AND A 7½ LB. BROWN TROUT FOR STEVE MACHOWSKI.

BEST FISHING DAYS FOR AUGUST WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN NEW AND FULL ARE AUG. 1-4 & AUG 18-SEPT. 3.

BEAT THE HEAT WITH DOG DAY BASS

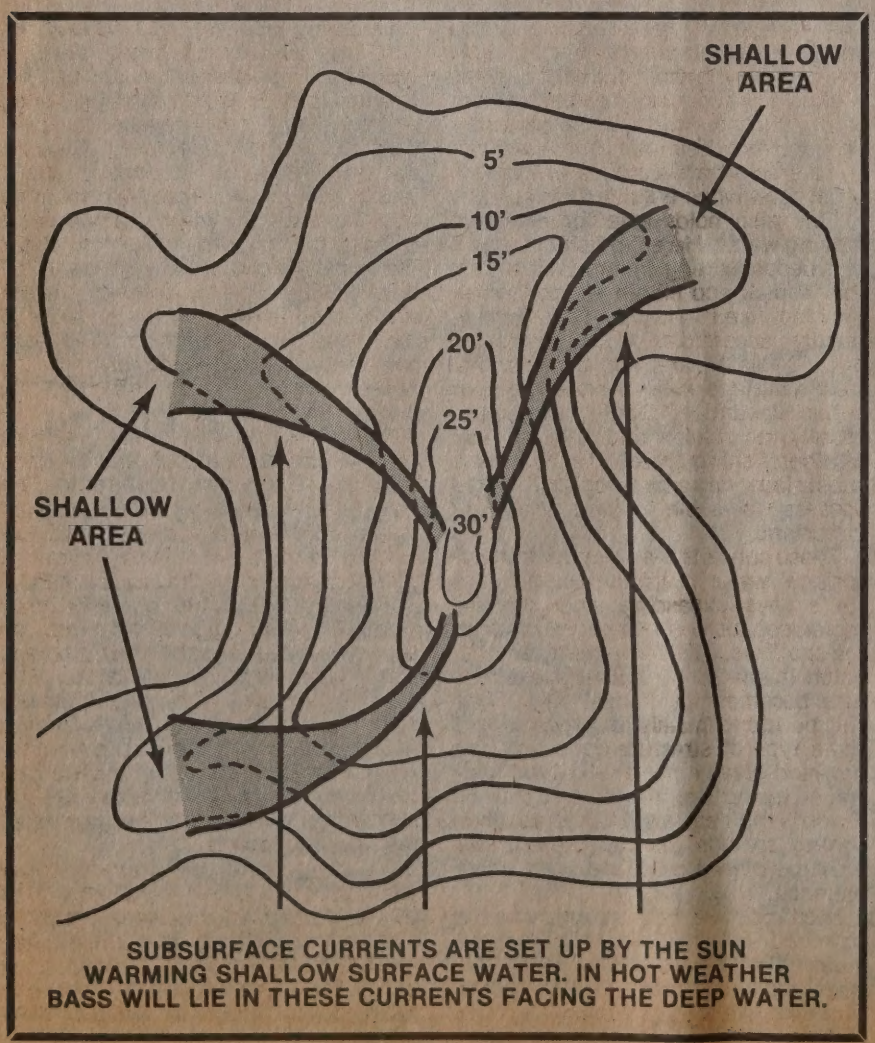
by Chris Calvalski

Before hanging up your rod during the "summer doldrum" period, heed the advice of this bass wise angler.

As is the case with a number of "old wives" type tales, the statement that bass don't feed during the oppressively hot weather periods is erroneous. You and I eat, cattle eat, dogs eat, so why should fish cease to eat when the weather gets extremely hot? They eat, just as we do, in moderation, but nearly daily.

This fact should be your main guide to success. Keep yourself in mind when thinking of the fish. In hot, oppressive weather you would rather nibble on small, light, easily digestible portions of food through the course of the day than sit down to a large breakfast, midday, and evening meal. The same is somewhat true of the hot weather bass. The fish are not in the mood for big meals of "meat and potatoes" any more than you are. They are looking for "a slice of melon, a sandwich, or a little salad," so to speak, and this adds up to small minnows slowly fished.

The bait size I'm referring to is shiners from two to three and a half inches long. I've found that bait in this range are what the larger bass are looking for to snack on, while medium to smaller sized bass usually will ignore the meal such bait present and look for something more within their snack range.



SUBSURFACE CURRENTS ARE SET UP BY THE SUN WARMING SHALLOW SURFACE WATER. IN HOT WEATHER BASS WILL LIE IN THESE CURRENTS FACING THE DEEP WATER.

The most effective way I found to use such bait is by allowing them to free swim into likely looking areas of cover and then gently pull them out into clear water before they get deep enough into the cover to foul. This method has enticed many a large bass to hit. It takes a little practice and you'll lose some bait in the learning procedure, but the results are well worth the bait and time.

What I do is to tail hook the bait, run the hook just above the backbone, in the flesh about midway between the end of the dorsal fin and the beginning of the tail. This restricts the bait's movement somewhat, but the restriction is a plus, for it cuts the bait's mobility and adds to its fish-attracting properties.

With the bait thoroughly rigged I'll cast it near a likely looking area of cover such as a weed bed, lily pads, etc. There I'll let the bait struggle to reach the cover, then gently tug it out once I figure it had gotten in too deep. On occasion the reverse has happened. The bait is cast close to the cover and instead of swimming into the weeds or pads the bait frantically attempts to get into open water. The reason for this being that the little fish spotted a hungry looking big fish. Now, casting the bait back into the area once it has swum clear may or may not result in a strike. The bass are hot and lazy and will, at times, pass up food which they have to exert too much energy to obtain. I have learned that if I cut off the bait's tail then recast it into the area the result is usually fish. Without the tail the bait struggles but goes nowhere and a nearby fish usually cannot resist the invitation for such an easy meal.

Keeping bait alive in this kind of weather can definitely be a problem. Ice will help, but too much ice is as bad as no ice at all. A lot of fishermen sock the ice to their minnow buckets in an attempt to keep their bait alive and active. And this works—it works so well that it kills the bait once the bait leave the cold bucket and enters into the warm lake water. Too rapid a temperature change is detrimental to any coldblooded creature and the s hock results either in death instantly or a paralysis that in the case of the bait leads to death, of all things, by drowning.

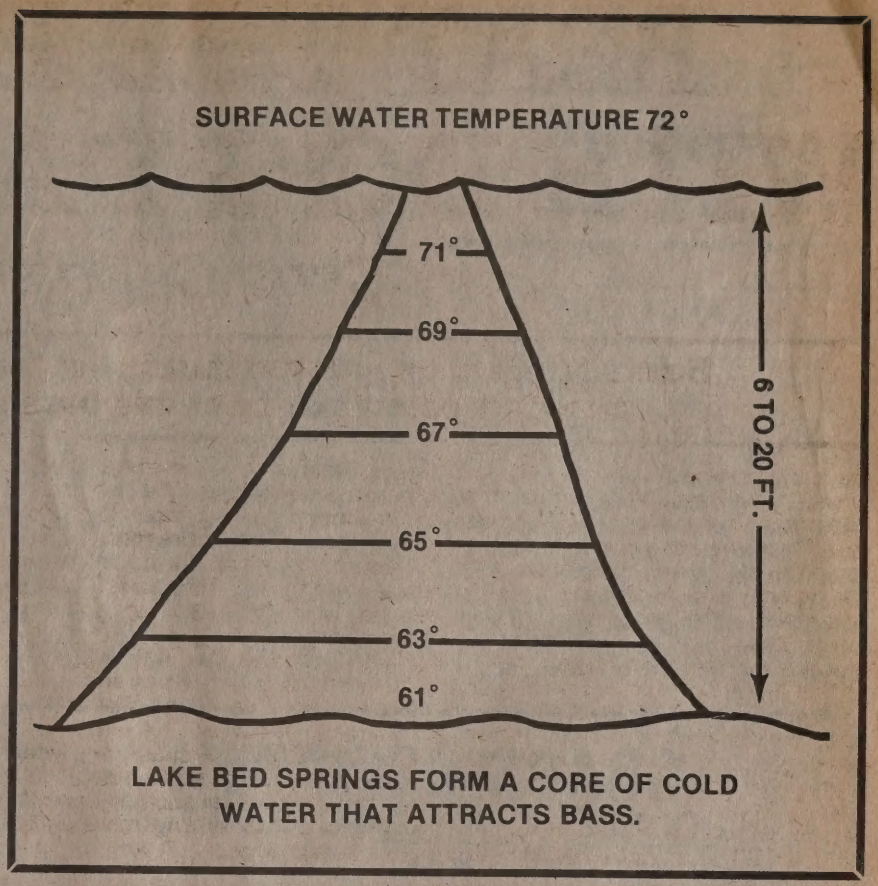
What I do is try to keep the bait cool, but not cold. I accomplish this by freezing water in styrofoam cups and taking a number of these cups along with me in a small cooler. Then, using only one cup at a time, I place the inverted cup (open side down) on the perforated cover of my bait bucket. I've found this method gives better results than just placing a hunk of ice on the cover or dropping ice into the bucket itself. With the cup the temperature in the bucket is more controlled and less severe leaving the bait less prone to temperature shock when they are fished.

When and where you fish free swimming minnows is very important. As previously stated, cover is an ingredient here. So is shade. Areas of cover lying beneath overhanging branches outproduce areas of cover that are subject to direct sur. ,ht. This, of course, means shore line areas and the best time to fish such areas is at twilight. All agree that evening is one of the best bass fishing times; but is this because that's when the fish are hungry or is there some other reason? I, for one, believe it is because it is at this time of day that food is more abundant and localized.

Evenings, bass, and shore lines always seem to go together in the summer months. But, in my opinion, that's because in the hot weather weeks bait fish choose the evening to school along the shore, and it's the presence of bait more than the temperature or the time of day that brings the bass into shore with the setting sun. I've also found that given the same conditions of cover and water depth the west side of a body of water produces earlier and better fishing than the east. Also that the bait begin to disperse as darkness increases, so that the ideal time to fish the areas of shore line cover is from the time the sun is down on the horizon to when starts become clearly visible in the west. After that, free swimming tail hooked minnows are not as effective as slowly fishing small surface lures. Just remember, in extremely hot weather the bass are looking for a snack and not a meal, so small will be more effective than big. Also, the fish are not going to go out of their way to eat, so fish lures slowly, and as is the case with free swimming minnows, fish each area thoroughly.

Evening is not the only time that bass can be taken in the hot weeks. If you are familiar with a given body of water and extremely patient, then you can hook into some lunker bass at noon on a sweltering August day. I have, but I had an edge. I knew where there was moving water and where lake bed springs were.

Of the two the lake bed springs are the most productive. The bass lay around them because of the cooler water present and will take a minnow fished lip hooked on a walking sinker rig if you are patient. Try to visualize the fish lying in the cooler water adjacent to the spring. They are much like a group of people sitting in the shade on a hot summer's day. Just like people who don't rush upon a tray of snacks brought out to them, neither will the bass rush at a minnow dropped into their area. Some will not be interested while others will take a bit of food when it suits their fancy.



LAKE BED SPRINGS FORM A CORE OF COLD WATER THAT ATTRACTS BASS.

This also holds true for areas of moving water. Here the fish are much like people sitting in front of a fan; they'll pick and nibble at food when they feel like it and only if the food is readily accessible. Now, areas of moving water are not confined to visible surface water such as inlet or outlet streams. Actually, these are usually too shallow and only fair hot weather fishing areas. It is the deep subsurface currents which all lakes possess to some degree that are important.

These currents are setup by shallow surface water warming under the sun's rays expanding and causing cooler deeper water to move towards the shallows. This movement, accentuated in places by subsurface structure becomes the fishes' fan. They will be found mainly in areas where some type of structure constricts the flow and gives it more force and they will be facing into the current, that is, towards the deep water. Just as when fishing springs, fishing these areas must be done slowly and with much patience.

Locating lake bed springs can be achieved with the aid of a thermometer. Picture the spring causing a large cone of cooler water formed between the lake's bottom and its surface, with the temperature difference being less near the surface. By drifting about an area that is suspected to harbor a spring, its location can be pinpointed by taking temperature readings at a predetermined set of intervals. Because the broad base of the cone is at the lake's bottom and that the closer to the surface the less temperature difference exists. The quickest method to locate such springs is by deep temperature soundings. Fewer are needed because of the expanse of the cone at the bottom and less mistakes will be made due to the cooler temperatures that will be registered.

One other aspect of hot weather bass fishing exists and that is rain. Rain brings an abrupt but temporary drop to surface water temperature as well as infusing fresh oxygen into the summer's lake. This will trigger a period of heavy feeding in the fish.

A long steady rain is better than quick, violent thunderstorms, so common to this time of year, but one must take what is available. The steady rain provides good fishing throughout its duration. While fishing in a thunderstorm isn't recommended, the residual effects of such a rain can produce a period of heavy action, sometimes lasting up to an hour after the storm's passage.

So, if you can pull yourself away from your pool, air conditioner, or tall, icy drink long enough to try some midsummer fishing you might discover that the dog days not only mean hot, humid, and heavy, but also can mean some hours of terrific bass fishing.

East End Report

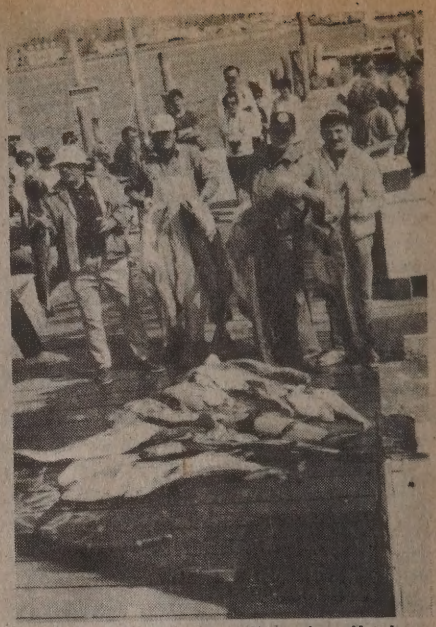
by Stu Miller

MONTAUK

The warming Montauk waters are now giving forth the large members of the tuna family along with more sharks, swordfish and white marlin. Aside from this, the bluefish, porgy and fluke action is there to be had.

A call from Capt. Mike Potts of the **Blue Fin I** and **Iv** relates a glorious trip Friday for the Crumpe group. With angler John Von Stade of Pea Pack, N.J. in in the chair, a 371 lb. swordfish was sighted, baited, hooked, fought and landed. This was around the 40 fathom curve and the sword took 3 hours to bring to the boat. The skipper says the sword was absolutely uncontrollable the whole time and was the wildest fish he'd ever been into. In addition to this, they had 4 albacore. Saturday's trip saw 4 albies and 30 bluefish taken and Sunday's trip for the Peepas group 35 albacore were trolled, up to 45 lbs. Captain John Potts on his **BF I** has been catching blues and weaks for his parties all week. Saturday for the Kessler group, 18 big albies went into the box. Another trip for the McNamara group saw 16 albies tucked away. Albacore were taken at the Butterfish hole, while bluefish were trolled and jigged at the Sub Buoy, the lighthouse and various other inshore spots.

Aboard Capt. Buddy Dorman's 6-man limit open boat **Waxed**, porgy fishing has been getting better slowly. Saturday was excellent but second to Sunday. Clifford Braverman of Queens, NY led the way with an astounding high hook of 149 porgies. Other anglers were in the 80-100 class. Gardiner's Island provided the action.



A fine catch of cod and pollack made near Cartwright by the Vaccaro party aboard the Montauk charter boat "Blue Fin I."

Good, consistent porgy fishing is the name of the game, report **Little Bear** and **Flying Cloud**, with all passengers happy. Fish are medium to large with a few jumbos mixed in and catches ranging from 12-50 fish a man.

Charter boat **Lori-Jay** on Friday fished General Foods for Shawn Pfund, Andy Thompson and group. Three longfin albacore were taken from 30-35 lbs. Highlight of the day was an 82½ lb. white marlin taken on a white machine. All this was roughly 30 miles off the beach, due south. The marlin is being mounted by Fish Unlimited Taxidermy, Babylon.

The **Ebb Tide** has been having good tuna catches with mainly longfin tuna and an occasional yellowfin, all fish up to 40 lbs.

Aboard the charter boat **King Wayne** on Saturday after 1½ hours of trying to bait a big sword with squid, to no avail, the group was forced to stick the fish which weighed out on the scales at 182 lbs. Sunday's charter had very good longfin albacore to the tune of 16 fish in the 25-35 lb. range. Catches were south of Block on plastic. Friday's charter tagged and released 2 medium size blue sharks and later had a good catch of weaks and blues at Shagwong on trolled umbrellas.

Captain Bob of the charter boat **Sundance** told us that Frank Smith and Bill Kenny chartered both his boat and **Bronco Explorer** for Thursday and Friday and got longfin albacore 20-45 lbs. due south of the Point. Saturday's charter for Mr. Stalks, NYC with his 2 sons filled the bag with 40 blues on a half day trip off Gardiner's on umbrellas. Sunday was a family outing and the catch consisted of 6 albies and a 69 lb. white

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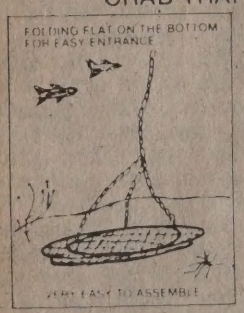

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marlin with Rich Pintauro on the rod, fishing south of the Point. It was 4-5 lb. bluefish that were trolled on umbrellas at Shagwong Thursday aboard Capt. Joe McBride's charter boat **My Mate.** Sunday's trip saw 7 albies trolled for Mr. Ng of NY on plastic, fish running 30-40 lbs. Five more were dropped.

The **Viking Fleet** reported that the fluking has been very good with more and more keeper fish in the rips and also on the south side. Porgy fishing has picked up a little with catches of mixed fish at most of the local productive drops. Codfishing at Coxes Ledge has ranged from good to very good depending on the day, fishing running average from 4-9 lbs., with fish in the high 20s taking the pools. The night bluefishing remains good on bait, with fish mostly on the large size.

LIF subscriber Debbie Barrow last Saturday hooked and landed a possible women's IGFA world's record on 4 lb. test Stren mono. The fish was an 87½ lb. blue shark caught aboard the private boat The Squirrel roughly 30 miles to the SE of the lighthouse. The fish was caught on a mackerel bait and took 1 hr. 40 mins. to land. At the wheel was Capt Glen Ekstrom.

Captain Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** on Thursday fished Paul Beriswell of Newsday, taking 22 longfin albacore on cedar jigs and feathers. Tuesday's trip was for M. Bailey, Skinner and Gary Hatfield, all Belmont race track jockeys. They managed 6 albies. Phil says generally the tuna fishing has been spotty. The inshore fishing has been good. A trip for Leon Jones of Piedmont, NY filled the box with 70 blues on a half day trip as did Bill Irrazziary on another half day trip.

Saturday's trip for Jim Tomkins,

Gregory Centamore, Jr. and his dad show one of the many weaks they took along with some blues aboard the Montauk charter boat "Vivienne."

Two youngsters enjoyed the thrill of a lifetime on a recent charter out of Montauk. Twelve-year-old Carl Giangrande landed the 338 lb. dusky, while 16-year-old Keith Kagan whipped a 50 lb. yellowfin tuna. Subscriber photo.

Yorktown Heights aboard Capt. Charlie Zboray's charter boat **Free Spirit** saw Jim's first offshore trip ring the bell with a 60 lb. blue shark which is being mounted by Fish Unlimited Taxidermy, Babylon. Charlie asked us to let you know has he some choice weekdays open and the ocean is alive with fish.

A call from Capt, Jerry Spooner of the charter boat **Wet Dream II** told of a catch for Gary Bruzik of NJ, a 417 lb. mako Saturday fishing south of the Butterfish Hole.

Charlie at **Star Island Yacht Club** passed on the word that Mike Ferrigno on Armadillo had a 425 lb. blue marlin taken on 80 lb. test tackle west of the Fish Tails on a green Jethead. Scott Rhein, age 10, weight 95 lbs. hooked and landed unassisted a 270 lb. big eye tuna fishing on his dad's boat Tender Foot at Block Canyon. Scott's dad is long time tuna fanatic Pete Rhein. Ron Goldberg's Barbara Jac out fishing the canyons returned with 9 big eye tuna running from 115 -240 lbs. on green machines, feathers and Jetheads at the canyon. The private boat Mi Jili Jo worked north rips for a good catch of fluke on the weekend on strip baits while Dave McMahon on Marie III bagged a 12 lb. fluke in these rips. Charlie says the fishing is absolutely super right now and that aside from the above, bluefish are all over the place.

Aboard Capt. John Keller's canyon special **Bronco Explorer** a charter for Hugh O. Kane, NYC at Block Canyon hooked and landed 2 big eye tuna going 275 and 240 lbs. along with 27 albacore from 44- 50 lbs. The bigeyes took deep trolled Konas, green and white.

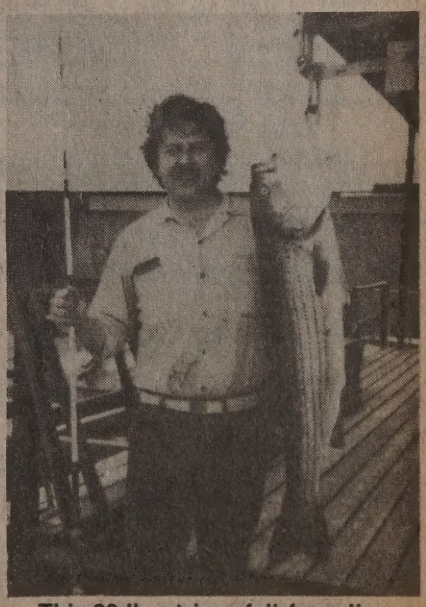
From **Gone Fishing Marina** we are told that Saturdays charter aboard the **Alyssa Ann** for Henry Galinio and pals boated 26 blues from 11-14 lbs. on umbrellas and tiger jigs. Vinnie Panichi took a 10 lb. fluke in the North Rips along with 20 other good keeper fluke,. Ken Frink scored with albacore to 30 lbs. fishing southeast of Block Island on plastic. On Sunday Walt Geist and Pete Van Bredrodt took 4 albies from 35-40 lbs. fishing SE of Block. Arnie Fox and friends had fluke, weaks and blues at the Sub Buoy Sunday afternoon. Porgies have been good at Gardiner's and Shagwong. Fluke are being caught from the jetty all the way around to the south sdie and in good sizes.

Aboard Capt. Jerry McGrath's charter boat **Nostalgia II** on Tues. Rene Santino and son Lou socked it to 15 fluke on a half day trip fishing the south side with mackerel strips. Saturday's charter for Mary and Andy Di Biasi and John and Mary Mattuna decked 30 gorilla blues, 7 cod and 8 weaks on diamond jigs SE of the Light.

Good tuna fishing reported Capt. Art Munday of the charter boat **Darius II**, fishing south and southeast of the Point with long fin albies being the mainstay. Plastic, feathers and cedar plugs have been doing the trick. A 306 lb. mako shark was taken during the week by Josh Feigenbaum of Westchester.

SOUTH FORK

Aboard the Sag Harbor open boat **Wilhelric II** Capt. Artie Lach advises hat Friday was his best day of the week with Hazel Reed of Bklyn. bagging up with 130 porgies While Frances Agee, Bronx, loaded up with 136 porgies and Fred Boulder, NJ settled for 118 porgies. It was a slaughter said the captain. The other three porgy days of the week catches ran 50-80 fish a man. Fish have been



This 26 lb. striper fell for a live eel in Shinnecock Inlet. It was taken by Bob Zoltowski and checked in at Molnar's Landing in Hampton Bays.

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going up to 3 lbs. on clam, with the boat fishing the northwest corner of Plum Island. On Tuesday and Wednesday's fluke trips, the catch was fair Tuesday off Trumans Beach and Wednesday was a washout due to the weather. The skipper passed on the word that the charter boat **Nancy Ann** had exellent fluking Thursda, Friday and Saturday at Gardiner's with catches averaging 15-20 keepers a man up to 4 lbs.

Bayview Fishing Station in **Sag Harbor** told of good fluking off the Ruins at Gardiner's with 1/3 being midgets. There are also a lot of 1-2 lbs. blues at the Ruins and at Crow Shoals. Tons of snappers in the area, while porgies at Cedar Point are spotty. Lots of sand shark in the area which incidentally are delicious eating if bled, gutted and iced down immediately.

Sailing out of Shinnecock Canal, the **Capt. Clark II** reported a good upturn in the porgy fishing this week in Peconic Bay. Porgies have been in the 3/4 to 1½ lbs. class with clam and sand worm working best. On Thursday Ed Zimmerman, Hollis, was high hook with 29 porgies. A 4½ lb. weak took pool honors. Weaks from 3-6 lbs. are being caught everyday, along with some kingfish. Captain Clark reminds his customers that he'll resume offshore wreck trips for sea bass in early September, so watch this column and his ad for dates.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

EAST END BAYS & INLETS

Out of **Molnar's Landing** in **Hampton Bays**, Lanny Molnar said that the best of the offshore action has been inside the 150' mark in recent days. Marlin along with lots of yellowfin tuna were taken SE of the inlet in 130-150' of water. Small bluefin tuna were taken by some innovative anglers in 110-120' of water. The fish were taken on small tins cast to the fish with spinning rods as the tuna were feeding on small anchovies. Kip Molnar found a 140 pound mako SE in 140' of water on Sunday. Small bluefish in the 1-3 pound range are all over the place just outside of the Inlet according to Lanny. Bigger fish in the 8-12 pound class are out in 90' where they are being taken on wire and umbrella rigs. Steve Schindler's Magic Carpet along with Jim Delano's Peace of Mind both returned with boxfulls of big blues on the weekend. Some bass life in the inlet this past week, fish in the teens to 30 pounds taken by liveliners and some

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This 380 lb. mako was taken aboard the private boat Alimar by its owner, Luis Menocal. It was weighed at Corr's Mariners Cove in Hampton Bays.

This 193 lb. tiger shark was taken by "Shorty" Ferguson and party at Montauk aboard the "Mako Express."

schoolies at the Ponquogue Bridge. Fluking has been decent for those who work at it and flounder action remains very good. Stan Mahalik worked buoy 20 to the tune of 140 flatties on Friday using mussel chum and worms. For the kids, snappers just getting started but still on the small side.

In **Moriches Bay** this week fluke received most of the attention as catches for the summer flatties improved. Gary at **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** in **East Moriches** said that those who put in the time returned with catches ranging from 25-30 flatties per boat while other less experienced anglers managed only 4 or 5 fluke to a boat. Gary figures that 90% of the fish being taken are now keepers. Most consistent action has been both north and south of the buoy 39 area on the last of the flood or the first part of the outgoing. One customer by the name of Andy returned with a catch of 22 keepers up to 3 pounds taken by himself on sandeels and squid north of 39. Flounder still available with many in the 1-2 pound class near the top of the tide at buoy 36 on blood worms and dyed clams. Jack and Kathy Friend along with Ray and Evelyn Mitchell had 81 flounder up to 2 pounds over the weekend.

Jim DeVita over at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** noted the improved fluke action between the radio station and Haven's Point. Most successful boatmen had been working between the bars north of the buoy 29 area and taking anywhere from 15-25 keepers per boat. The water depth here is sometimes as shallow as 2' so Jim suggests using a float rig above a couple of sandeels. Salty Dogs/squid strips also work in these shallows. Flounder fishing remains good on the last part of the flood and the first of the Ebb. Best scores this weekend were confined to anglers catching the proper tide in the early morning. Some managed 40-50 per boat on dyed clams and bloodworms. Lots of small blues up to 2 pounds roaming the bay and some small porgies and

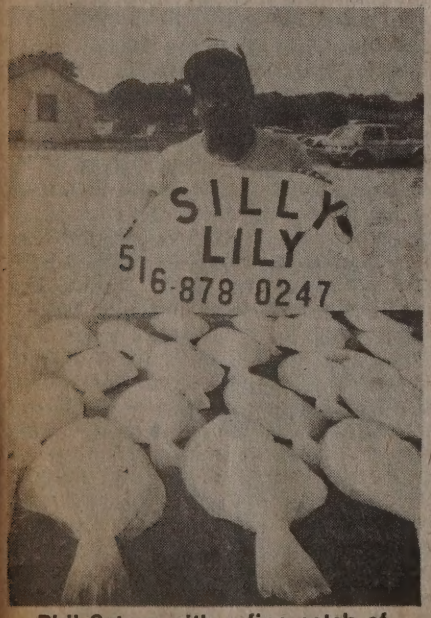
nice sized sea bass beginning to show at buoy 44.

In the **Mastic Beach** area, Bill Stiriz of **Stiriz's Fishing Station** emphasized the excellent crabbing going on at buoy 17 and buoys 9 & 10. Boats using traps and rings return with catches up to 130 nice blue claws. Fluking was pretty good on Saturday with boats returning with up to 20 fluke a piece on killie and squid combos. Largest of the weekend was a 6 pound doormat. Small blues are being taken on hi hooks baited with spearing and squid by fluke fishermen. A showing of some small weaks at buoy 12 over the weekend on Salty Dogs and squid.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

A good showing of small summer run weakfish in the eastern portion of Great South Bay highlighted the report from Vinnie at **South Bay Fishing Station** in **West Sayville**. Vinnie reported that "everybody" had weakfish in the 1-1½ pound class on Sunday with most being taken off of Sayville or at Ocean Beach on spearing and squid strips. The area is not without its occasional tiderunner either as Vinnie looked over an 11½ pound weak taken near Davis Park on Friday evening. Fluke fishing remains good from Ocean Beach to Point 'O Woods with spearing and squid again doing the damage. A few kingfish and sea bass being picked away at in the area and good snapper fishing now established at local docks.

A bit to the west, Dave Canale of **J & R Sport Center** in **Oakdale** reported continued good fluking near East Island, Ocean Beach and from West Channel to the R.M. Bridge. Fish are



Phil Sztorc with a fine catch of 21 fluke up to 3½ lbs. caught at buoy 39A in Moriches Bay. Fishing was done out of Silly Lily Fishing Station.

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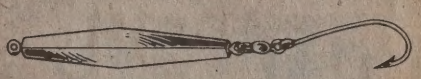

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Despite the season, flounder remain abundant in Moriches Bay. Mike DeCandia and Matt Dalessandro had this nice catch after renting a skiff from Skidmore's Fishing Station.

nice size with lots of 2-3 pounders making up the catches. Bluefish action outside the inlet this week slowed from the past couple of weeks but the fish are in evidence - just not feeding. Snapper fishing is good but they are still on the small side although an occasional snapper blue in the 1 pound range is taken from the West Sayville dock. Good crabbing in the daytime at Great River and nights at Sayville Dock. On the freshwater scene Dave knew that trout fishing in Connetquot State Park this past week was slow with fly fishermen really having to work for a couple of fish.

Lots of small blues at the inlet with weakfish under them according to Irene of **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip**. Best way to take the fish is with small 007 diamond jigs with either red, yellow or green tubes. Bigger blues up to 8 pounds were taken on umbrella rigs trolled outside F.I. Inlet. Fluke fishing in the bay and inlet remains very good with a lot of nice size fish being taken. One of the better producing spots seems to be in the Inlet in the vicinity of the O.B.I. Use killies or sand eels. Offshore, good numbers of white marlin were seen with some caught in 150' of water on Friday and Saturday.

In the **Bay Shore** area, Carl Miller of **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** called the overall fishing scene decent with fluke still getting most of the attention as the flat fishing remained very good again this week. Carl suggested the lighthouse area, the R.M. Bridge and buoy 7 near the Sore Thumb on incoming water with killies or spearing and squid. Lots of small blues, 2-3 pounds in the inlet, on Farm Shoals in Dickerson Channel. Some nice weakfish being taken from under the blues in the Inlet and also in the cove at Oak Beach. Some boatmen beginning to drift live snappers for the weaks. Rounding out the inshore scene was word of good crabbing and snapper fishing at all the local docks. Crabs are nice size while snappers are still smallish. Outside the Inlet 5-6 pound blues taken on jigs in 60' of water this past week with slightly larger fish at the NA buoy for trollers and chummers. A few bonita also put in an appearance this week. Further off the

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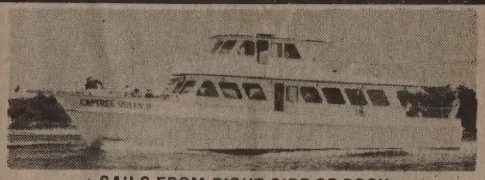

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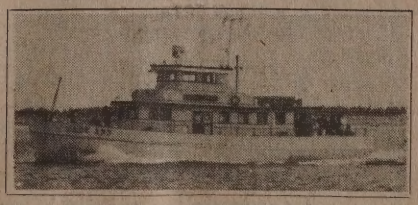

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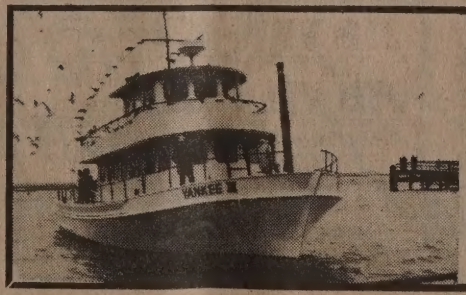

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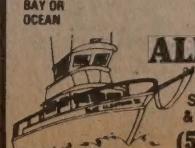

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beach, one private boat returned on Friday with a white marlin as well as a 75 pound bluefin tuna. Both were taken in 150' of water SE of the Inlet. Carl reminded that while canyon action in this area was slow he heard of quite a bit of action to the east.

Out of **Captree** this week, fluke fishing remained good for the open boat crowd although bluefishing took a nosedive. Plenty of choppers remain in evidence but for some reason the fish apparently have gone off their feed for the time being. At best the action can be described as sporadic in recent days.

Of the fluking, **Capt. Ben Litwin** of the open boat of the same name said that the best of the flatfish action has been on the last part of the flood and the first part of outgoing water anywhere from West Channel to the Inlet. While there were no fish to match last week's 10 pound doormat, a lot of quality fish (2-4 pounds) were taken by fares aboard the boat. Killies, spearing and strips of fluke belly have all been effective.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy Fleet** said that the solid bluefish action which the fleet has been enjoying for most of the season suffered this past week but not due to a lack of fish. Fish are often seen on the surface or on the machine but have been slow in responding to baits or jigs. The skipper has seen the same occurance each summer and expects it is only a temporary low. Weakfish have helped fill the void in the mean time. On Sunday's trip aboard the **Speedy VI** approx. 25 weaks were taken while nearly twice that number came aboard the **Speedy VII**. The day was rounded out with very picky bluefishing for both boats.

At the **Captree Bait Station** Noel Kappauf spoke of improved snapper fishing from Fishermans Walk at Captree although the fish are still on the small side. Also a few fluke being taken from this pier. At the Robert Moses fishing piers in F.I. Inlet some good catches of flounder being made by casters using worms. Across the way on the sandbar just west of the bridge some decent fluke are being

Bill Greer and friend with makos of 125 and 130 lbs. taken at night south of Moriches Inlet. The fish were checked at L&M Marine in East Moriches where Bill keeps his Baroness berthed.

taken. The most dependable action besides the fluking which remains good has to be the small blues and weaks being taken at the inlet in the early morning hours. Best way to take them is on small diamond jig and tube combos like the 007. Noel dittoed the offshore bluefish report saying that the action is apparently in a mid-summer lull but expects it to improve shortly.

An overnight weekend trip for Jim Dooley and friends aboard Capt. Jack Stoddard's **Babylon** charter boat **Luci II** resulted in one mako shark, one tiger and 3 duskies taken during the course of the trip SE of F.I. Inlet in 180' of water. On the trip home, a white marlin was raised but refused all offerings.

Ralph at **Augies Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** looked over a 57 pound white marlin for John Sadowski on Saturday. It was taken aboard the Michelob SE of the Inlet in 150' of water. Ralph knew that several other whites were taken in the same area on Friday and there was also some tuna life. The action seemed to die on Sunday when better fishing was found near the ruins of the old Texas Tower and in the Canyon.

Fred Austin took over for the inshore report telling us that good fluking continues in the bay with lots of nice size fish still the rule. Bigger bluefish now between the Whistle buoy and the NA buoy eliminating any further run for good size choppers Plenty of small blues remain inside the inlet with weakfish beneath them. Both are being taken on small diamond jigs and tubes. Plenty of snappers on spearing at the Babylon Town Dock and Fred reminded that the Babylon Tuna Club sponsored snapper derby is scheduled for August 28th with registration for youngsters 12 and under at The Dock at 9AM.

Over in **Lindenhurst,** Gil at **Capt. Jack's East** said that there are good numbers of snappers and crabs at all the local docks where youngsters are being kept busy. Fluke fishing remains good in the area with sandeels, spearing and killies all working on the fish. Gil also knew that there was a flurry of activity with porgies and some decent sized sea bass in West Channel this past week. Lots of small blues along with some weakfish inside F.I. Inlet.

The **Lindenhurst** charter boat **Fishfinder** skippered by Capt. Lenny reported that Sunday's bluefish trip for Roy Martorana, and Paul Letterberg and friends resulted in a boxfull of 4-7 pound blues taken on trolled umbrellas and also by squidding diamond jigs. Fishing was done between the Cholera banks and the Three Sisters Wreck.

From **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle,** Mike told of lots of small blues being taken on 007 jigs in the vicinity of the Sore Thumb. Joe Manfredo was among the many anglers filing reports

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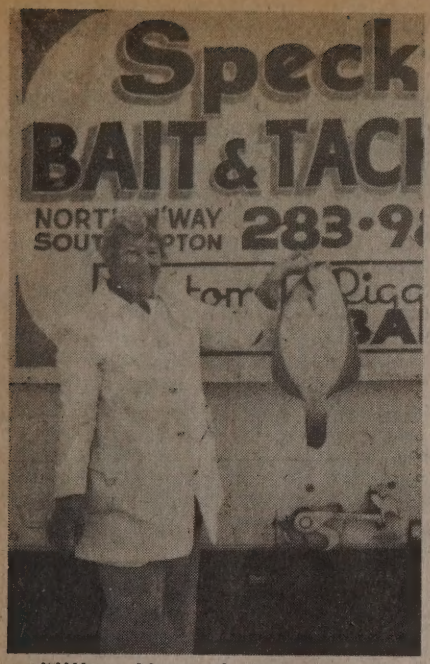

Lillian Hug of Amagansett displays the 4.14 lb. flounder she caught at Promised Land and which won first place in Speck's Bait & Tackle's annual May Flounder Derby.

of the hectic action in the Inlet. Fluking remains good with George Nester accounting for 25 fluke singlehandedly in the State Channel on Thursday. On Saturday, Mark Sheshedian worked the Copiague Hole for a bucket of porgies along with a couple of kingfish. He used clam chum and worms. Crabs and snappers have been providing very good action at local docks and Mike reminded that the shop's annual snapper derby is currently under way. Stop in or call for more details.

SOUTH OYSTER BAY

From **Capt. Jack's West** in **Amity Harbor** Bob Rose spoke of very good snapper fishing and crabbing at Copiague's Tanner Park. 1-3 pound blues in good supply at both F.I. and Jones Inlet on small jigs, tins and umbrella rigs. Fluke action remained good in F.I. Area with most of the fish being taken in the 2-3 pound class and very few throwbacks. Fluke action improved this week in the western bays.

Lon Wanser of **Wanser's Tackle Shop** in **Seaford** labelled the fluking at Mass. Cove, Goose Creek, the 2nd Bridge and the Measured Mile in the State Channel as pretty good this week with emphasis on the latter spot. Some weaks now being taken on snappers in the daytime while boatmen at night continue to pick away on sandworms. Most of this action is confined to the bridge areas. Also some 2-3 pound blues at the third bridge on Friday, Saturday and Sunday as well as at the Inlet. Bigger fish are out at Cholera where they are being taken by chummers, trollers

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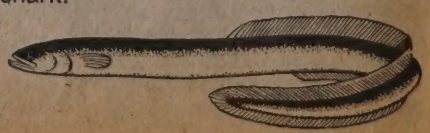
A catch of 25 keeper fluke up to 4½ pounds for Bill Gabarina highlighted Art Wright's report from **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** in **Seaford**. Don Garaici wasn't far behind with his catch of 23 fluke. Both anglers worked Great Island Channel between Four Corners and the 2nd Bridge. Most boatmen had been averaging in the neighborhood of 15 flatties per boat. Killies, spearing and sandeels all working on the flatties. Some snapper blues up to 2 pounds mixed in with the fluke along with an occasional sea bass. Crabs and snappers are now well established in the canal in front of the Station. Art reminded that on Saturday, August 7th there will be a snapper derby for youngsters 13 and under at the Town Dock.

Good fluke fishing particularly at the high water turn according to John Dombrowski of **Pop's Fishing Station** in **Seaford**. Florence Beach, Four Corners and buoy 14 has seen the best action at this part of the tide while most anglers worked around the 2nd and 3rd bridges during the rest of the Ebb and Flood. John figured that 6-8 nice keepers per boat has been about average with some anglers doing better and others doing not as well. One group of anglers on Thursday used killie and squid combos to take 17 keepers. They released an equal number of shorts as well. Flounder are still around but on the small side now and a few sea bass and blackfish are still being taken at the bridges.

Capt. Brian of the open boat **Chinco II** said that fluking has been pretty good most days with fares taking 3-8 keepers a piece and the hi-hook each day running up into the teens. The best action in terms of quality fish (2½-3 pounds) has been at Squaw Island on the last of the flood on live killies, although sandeels and squid strips work well in other spots.

A notable improvement in the size of the fluke being taken from the Merrick area was reported by Jimmy Boulukos of **Nick's Fishing Station** in **Merrick**. Jimmy called the fluking this week good particularly at Merrick Point where a Mr. Fink had 22 keepers on Saturday. The M.B. and Fundy Bridges are also producing decent fluke action. Some sea bass showed this week and weakfish in the 9-11 pound range fell to boatmen drifting live bunker around the bridges. Two Nick's Point Tuna Club boats who fished the Freeport Fishing Festival on the weekend wound up in a 2nd place tie in the shark division. Robert Adatemarco's Laura D with Ed Hirschberg on the rod took a 157 pound hammerhead while Bob Betts fishing aboard Bob Duran's Miss Chop Breaker had a 157 pound dusky shark.



Western South Shore Report

by Stu Miller

WEST END BAYS & INLETS

This area's fishing was fair to very good this week, depending on the day and area fished. There were various worthwhile catches made offshore which will be enumerated.

Starting with the **Freeport Fleet** a call from Capt. Dan Polara of the charter boat **Nan-sea** informed us that Sunday's trip for Nunzio Lombardy trolled up several longfin albacore around the texas tower, fish up 35 lbs. Dan says generally the tuna are feeding on tiny butterfish about thumb-nail size which is difficult to imitate with trolling lures, therefore the sketchy catches.

The **Capt. Lou Fleet** told of some very good fluking this past week with high hooks on the full day boat in the teens. Thursday's pool fish weighed in at 7 lbs. Saturday morning's tide worked like a charm for angler John DeRosa of Valley Stream who collected 20 keepers by 10:30 am by fishing both the bay and inlet. The Fleet's /12 day boat has seen some very good morning catches with high hooks running 10-12 keepers. Starting Aug. 11 the CL III will be fishing flounder and bottom from 4:30pm to 8:30 pm, Wednesday thru Sunday. Captain Mike says the flounder have been active, so he's going after them.

Aboard the **Capt. Al**, the day bluefish jigging has been generally good all week. Sunday saw some very good fishing with Jesse Barash taking the pool with a 12 lb. 8 oz. chopper. An angler from Ellenville had 30 blues

Young Phil Stegle shows off his first catch of fluke. The pair of flatties were taken on the "Miss Freeport II."

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Artie Gorda, Mickie G. and John Thomas with their 331 lb. mako taken aboard the Mickie G. Subscriber photo.

Sunday. Some weakfish are usually mixed in each day. Saturday was a slow day due to mid-week's heavy shot of rain water. The night blue-fishin on bait and chum thoughn not a slaughter, has been a steady pick. Most of the action has been west of the Ba.

Blues were spotty this week, reported Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin fleet** and catches were best at night. Day fish ran 1-5 lb. on jigs with the night fish a little bigger. Action has been basically west-southwest of the inlet with smaller fish inshore. High hook for the week was Frank Brindel, Garden City with 15 blues from 5-6 lbs. Big fish of the week was caught by Bret Cortez of Contract Sheet Metal with a 7 lber. Fluking has been fair all week both on the inside and along the beaches.$

Captain Mike Miller of the charter boats **Apus I and II** says he's been having super bluefishing trolling in the area of the Three Sisters for 2-4 lb. bluefish and that trolling results are exceptionally good because the fish are high. His sharking charters have been good this week with his 15th mako of the season taken on Saturday, a 150 lber. Mike says there are plenty of makos, duskies and hammerheads out there, though the tunas and skippies are not close yet.

Aboard the charter boat **Mickey II**, on Sunday Phil Pinto, Oregon and buddy Ken fished north of the HA in 120' of water and in a half hour took a 50 lb. mako on a freshly trolled bonito. They then hooked into an estimated 150 lb. mako which broke off after a 15 min. fight which included several leaps. The duo had a 3rd mako hookup which also broke off and their day was rounded off with a few 15 lb. class bluefish. Plenty of mako action said Capt. Tony, who also said that he's got several choice weekday Aug. shark dates available.

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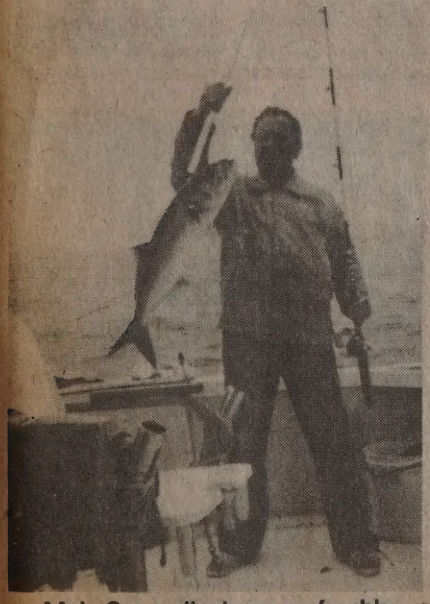
back and the inlet all week, depending on conditions and has been finding mostly keepers in the 2-4 lb. range. Best baits have been sand eels and spearing. Night bluefish trips have been good on 3-12 lb. fish working Three Sisters and Cholera.

Lou's Fishing Station told of Bobby Feuring and Bob Ferno on the boat Rebel Saturday taking a 107 lb. yellowfin tuna and releasing a 60 lb. white marlin. Quite a few marlin were taken during the week. Sandra Krysck on the Sandy K took her second white marlin, a 46 lber. fishing in the Compass Rose area, 45 miles SE of Jones in 160-170 feet of water. This Compass Rose area has been more productive than the canyon this past week for yellowfin, bluefin and marlin. On Jordan Crown's Sea Robin V 11 longfin albacore, 49¼ lbs. and 3 yellowfin tuna were caught on green machines and Z lures. All marlin were caught on rigged eels. Aboard Rick Lee's Lee III 2 bigeye tuna weighing 135 and 157 lbs. were taken in the southwest corner of the canyon. Andy Vallas fishing the canyon hoisted a 183 lb. bigeye.

Anthony's Fishing Station told of Ray Abbale's (East Meadow) catch of a weakfish and 3 giant blues caught on live bunker in Swift Creek at the bridge and also in the black banks area at night. Danny P. fishing the Meadowbrook bridge loaded up on 20 flat flounder and small blues and sea bass while Carl Fry had 30 keeper fluke, trollling Fundy Bay. Plenty of snappers around and there are good catches of flounder being made if you can find the deep holes.

Bob Kay at the **Freeport Boatmen's Assocsiation** told us that the Association charter boats that fluked this week had fair to good catches in Jones Inlet and off the local beaches. Morning fluke catches were best on the **Super Spray II**. Capt. Walt Scotts



Mal Gray displays a freshly gaffed blue taken outside of Jones Inlet aboard the Freeport charter boat "Nan-Sea."

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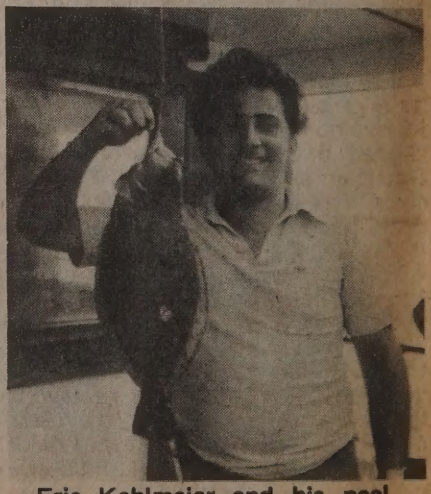
Acme II did particularly well Sunday. The area from Playland to Jones inlet was fishy. The Association boats fishing blues offshore found them skitterish though the skippers tried everything. With a conscientious day of trolling, chumming and jigging solid catches were made however. Best area was Three Sisters. The fish are there and will settle down once we are off this moon. Aboard the **Christie Lee** on a canyon trip the charter had 11 yellow and long fin tuna in the 60-80 lb. class.

Capt. Gary Smith's charter boat **Roseanne** on Monday's charter for Bob Newland and party of Vermont had a good catch of trolled blues in the Three Sisters area plus a dusky shark which was released.

Aboard the charter boat **Capt. Gary** Friday's trip for Frank Reed's group had a good catch of over 30 keeper fluke. This was in the inlet. Friday night's blue trip for Vito Lano and group had a slow pick. Due to conditions Saturday was a tough day for Rich Arcieri and group on the blues at the Sisters. Sunday's trip for On the Rocks Lounge, Island Park saw a good fluke catch. Paul Kelly took the pool with a 4 lb. 8 oz. fluke while high hook honors went to Jim Collins. On Sunday night's trip for Clarence Forman and group there was very good bluefising at the Sisters. A 10 lber. took the pool for Mack McKinley.

Over in **Baldwin Arthur Street Fishing Station** reports a lot of fluke brought in this week from Reynolds Channel and Garretts Lead with Scow creek producing best. Big fluke of the week belong to Greg Musnisky. Spearing is working best. Two-thirds of the fish appear to be keeper Good weakfish from 7-11 lbs. being taken at the Meadowbrook and Haunts Creek on live bunker. A 40 lb. mako was brought in by one customer who is having it mounted. Big flounder still being taken in the area of the CG station on worms. Snappers are in and BCC are getting larger in size and numbers.



Eric Kohlmeier and his pool winning fluke caught on the Point Lookout open boat, "Capt. Bill."

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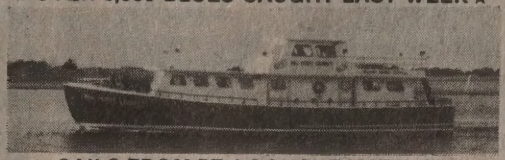

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Down in **Point Lookout** we hear from Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** of good fluking all week long, especially from their rental skiffs being run by knowledable customers. Regular Benny Kozuch, Foret Hills, blasted 45 keepers all by himself Friday fishing the flats with spearing, trolling bait on an incoming tide. Marivaldo Romanelli, Forest Hills, bagged a 6 lb. fluke at buoy 13 Saturday on sand eels, killie and squid while Alan Becofsky and dad Ernie bagged up with 15 keepers in the flats and at buoy 18 with fish up to 4 lbs. on spearin. They are still flounder being caught in Swift Creek and at the CG station on worms.

Capt. Ron of the **Miss Point Lookout** informs us that fluking was good for the most parr this week with the ebb at the inlet about the best. John Mccormick had 16 keeper fluke including a 7.4 specimen. Fish are averaging 3-5 lbs. and high hooks most days are 8-10 keepers. It's been steady all week. Sunday afternoon saw regular George Nemick take pool honors with a 4 lb. fluke. Monday night's bluefishing trip was a slaughter. 54 blues was the total for Ira Feinberg; 2 55- gal. pails were filled with blues by buddies Joey Tamborino and Charlie Feranda. 175 blues was the total score for Friday night, while Saturday night things assumed slaughter proportions once more with the total score 38 blues.

The Pt. Lookout charter boat **Marie III** on Sat. night fished Causeway Fishing Club and had good catches of 2-3 lb. blues south of the Sisters, averaging 10-15 fish per person. Sunday was fluking in the bay time for the Center Fishng Club with fair catches made up to 3 lbs. working Reynolds, Garretts Lead, Shell Creek and Jones Inlet. It was a bluefish slaughter Sunday nigh tfor Rockville Centre's Wollchester Pub, with 18 men averaging 15-30 fish each on bait and chum. Fish averaged 5-6 lbs. with about a doz. 10 lbers. thrown in. Action was 5 miles ESE of the Sisters and this was the boat's best bluefish trip so far for the season with fish being pulled as fast as you could get a bait in thw ater.

Over in **Atlantic Beach** Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** happily tells us the weaks are back at the Tin Can and the Channels on Tiger Tails, weaks averaging 8 lbs. Fluke catches have been best from the Island Park railroad trestle drifting to the Long Beach high school in mid channel, both tides with live killies working best followed by sand eels and spearing. Some stripers off Bch 37/39 st. in 30' of water with a 41 lber. taken there on live bunker. Silver Pt. jetty also producing some stripers on plugs and tins. Big blues at the Klondike and smaller blues around Debs in 30' of water on umbrellas. Flounder still being caught on worms, and few blacks being picked at Silver Pt. jetty.

Over in **Island Park** the **Commodore** tells of a pretty good week in the bay even with Wed. rain, a lot of fluke being caught. Don Thompson had 33 keeper Wed. On Thurs. Tom Rupp and brother Bruce had 52 keeper fluke between sthem. Saturday saw John Glaser with 34 keepers while Sun. Mike Nicholson wracked up 29 keepers himself. Catches are averag-

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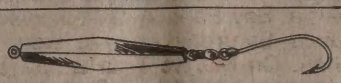

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ing 10-12 keepers a man and pools going to 10 lbs. boat fishing the inlet and in the back. The keeper ratio has been very good also. Lots of small porgies between the trestle and along beach bridge casting from shore in Island Park. Snappers are in too.

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook tells about the good snapper and bcc action in Bay Park. Fluking has been very good at Duck Pt, wed and Thur with catches seen of uop to 30 keeper fluke. Aboard the Shraron B working 17 fathoms, 3 big shark were brought to the boat and released. Sixty blues were umbrellaed. The Tin Can has come alive again for weakfish but you must be there at the right time. Try snappers at the Meadowbrook bridge for big weakfish in the early morning and late afternoon hours.

Over in **Long Beach**, Long Beach Sports Marina reports plenty of fluke through Reynolds Channel, best between buoys 3 and 1 and at Duck point. Bob Vogt and Eunice Pierce took 40 fluke (half keepers) at Duck Point on live killies with the last of the incoming best. Plenty of bunker throughout Reynolds in the early morning and late evening. Snappers and bcc in the bay.

To the west in **Jamaica Bay Cross Bay Bait & tackle** tells of good size porgies and good numbers also being taken on sand worms, both tide, off Nort and South channel bridges. Snappers in good hitting spearing. Some flounder beint aken on blood worms. Fluking fair in Mill basin, fish running 2½-3 lb. on spearing and skid. 2-3 lb. blues daytime and larger blues at night with some weaks mixed in, all on bunker chunks. Lots of eels on worm and good crabbing. Sal Bicuma fishing off the North channel bridge, had 7 blues 3-5 lbs. and 1 biggies at 8½ lbs. on bunker chunks. Tom Lee Jr and Sr accounted for 4 weaks at the Tin Can from 7-8½ lbs

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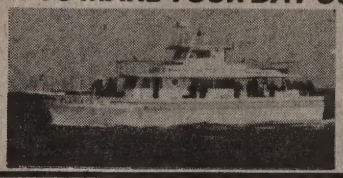

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on bucktails Sunday. **Skippy's Bait J-Bay Boat Rental** tells of bluefish all over the bay particularly south of the radar station at JFK. Smaller fish on Kastmasters and Hopkins, larger fish on live bunker. Porgies swarming all over the bay are increasing in size and hitting sand and blood worms. Fluke in nicer sizes on killie-squid combos at Silver Hole. BCCs have invaded the bay and are nice size.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Skippy's Bait and Tackle told of excellent fluking at Duck Pt and Reynolds channel, much better there than on the outside. All baits are working with an 80 percent keeper ratio. Crabs and snappers are excellent at Bay Park. A 170 lb. mako was taken Saturday on the boat Billie Glen. On Martys Twin a 180 lb. big eye tuna and 12 long fin tuna werew taken on green machines at canyon on the weekend. Large fluke being picked at the Tin Can.

To the west in **Sheepshead Bay** the **Pilot II** tells of excellent blackfishing with fish up to 7 lbs. in good numbers on fiddlers. Some sea bass mixed in on squid, 1-1½ lber. Also a few ¼-1 lb. porgies being caught.

Capt. Butch on the **Zephyr** had good fluking Thurs and Friday with a fair Saturday and a tough Sunday due to who knows why. Best action was the Tin Can and West Bank. Elmont customer Joe Clark on Tuesday grabbed the pool with a 8 lb. fluke. Fish are averaging 1-5 lbs. and Tom says catches should increase once we are off the moon, that the fish are there.

Capt. Walt Weigand of the **Flamingo III** tells of some fast bluefish jigging Sunday afternoon. Actioj was good for the most part during the week with fish constantly moving around. Fish running 2-5 lbs. with some 6-8 lbers. around also. Some gorillas were taken earlier in the week at 17 fathoms up to 18 lbs., and at the

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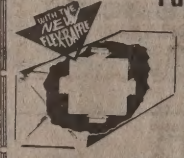

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BA also. Walt says the larger fish should be moving in now and fish in general settling down.

Jimmy at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle** says weakfish are building at the Tin Can and the black side of Ambrose as are the blues. Weaks are running 7-10 lbs. on bait tails and Nordic tails while blues are running 3-5 lbs. on diamond jigs. Good fluking continues to be had off Riis Park and the Coney Island flats while flounder and porgies are being picked at various honey holes in the bay. Snappers and blue claw crabs starting in the bay.

Over the waves in **Staten Island,** Kevin **Santos Sport Shop** lamented the fact that zillions of cocktail blues are inundating the waters from New Dorp to Annandale and while they are hitting everything and anything, tins are best for these 1-3 lb. mini-blues if you can get through them, there are fluke and weakfish down below to be had. In the mean time, blue claw crabs are a good item in Great Kills Park.

North Shore Report

by Marty Garrell

WESTERN SOUND

Fine weather helped anglers last weekend, a truly mixed bag was available. Those who could make the run east had the best pick of bluefish, but anglers to the west found fluke. Except for porgy action (or lack of it) bottom fishing is good.

John's Gun & Tackle said that schoolie bass were accommodating local New Rochelle anglers, but that bluefishing had dropped off. Porgies were few and far between off Mamaroneck. The **Klondike VIII** from New Rochelle has been working the big schools of blues to the east.

Jack's Bait & Tackle on **City Island** saw a lot of fluke from local waters with the best official weighing of the week a 4 lb. fish. Porgies were slow, but there were still flounder around to pick up the slack. The **Ebb Tide III** had seen some of the finest kind of bluefish action during the week with high hooks to 67 fish and the choppers were working under a couple of square miles of bunker.

With porgy numbers off Eaton's and Smithtown insufficient for large numbers of porgy fans working from a party boat, Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** from City Island was running east to the Norwalk Islands for blackback flounder. Despite the fact that it's August, catches of 15-25 nice flatties with an occasional lunker are still comon. There are odd sblacks and porgies mixed in.

Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** described the bluefish action as "blitz in/blitz out" in local waters. If one fishes for several nights, he's bound to strike it rich. Fish sizes run 1-3 lb. or 5-6 lb., depending on which schools are around. Small snappers can be dropped back, liveline style, to the larger choppers.

Dosoris Pond is still a good bet for flounder with worms as principal bait. Hempstead Harbor broke out late last week on blues to all sizes, and many anglers are chasing choppers between Port Washington and Bayville.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Tons of blues in small and mid sizes continue to delight anglers in this sector, and weather has been kind to weekenders as well. Small boat traffic reduces the catch on Sundays as a rule. Bottom fishing is excellent for fluke with porgies also available.

Weaks over 6 lbs. are under the 2-5 lb. blues off Lilco, Crab Meadow and Sunken Meadow, according to George Valentine at **4 Winds** in Huntington Station. Ronnie Ferrara at **Ronnie's** called our atttion to some of the big fluke that were hanging around Buoy 13, waiting to be taken on live snappers. Tom Otranto weighed in two doormats of 11 and 11¾ lbs. The Cedars at **Huntington Prop** felt that the numbers of fluke were not large, however. They suggested that anglers seeking bigger blues might head out east for 8-10 lb. fish. Also in the Huntington zone were porgy schools that included jumbos in the 1-2 lb. class. Clam baits were best.

Although the biggest bass posted at 4 Winds was only about 15 lb., Joe Sapienza hauled a 47 lb. linesider, taken on a 5½" Redfin, into Ronnie's on the morning of July 31.

A morning charter aboard the Huntington charter boat "Packy IV" resulted in this fine catch of 27 big weaks and 17 blues for Joe Raymond, Doug Dimonda, Marc Usdan and Charlie Goldman.

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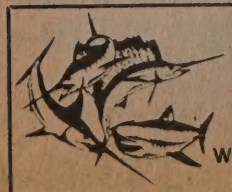

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Packy Collins gave an account of the diamond jig action aboard the **Ever Ready** and summarized that Saturday was very good, but that Saturday night had dropped off. Weekday catches were super. Dolores Schmitt accounted for 54 blues and Art Tubertini had 47, but the pros were down to 10-12 fish per head on Sunday due to heavy boat noise over schools in 30-35' of water. Sunday's high hooks, George and Judy Shover, hauled 32 blues between them.

The **Aqua Gem** has been finding a lot of action off Buoy 9 in the Port Jeff area. On Monday, 23 anglers put 600 blues to 7 lbs. on board, and weekend catches were still 10-20 per fare. Bob and Don Achenbach had 100 blues on Saturday's charter. "Porgies, porgies, porgies" were the words from Hank Olsen, whose **Captain Hank** found large schools of 1 lb. scup off the Pipeline. Anglers had 20-30 fish per person.

Porgies were present in all sizes off Oldfield, according to Tim Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** in Port Jefferson. Scup ran anywhere from 3 oz. to 3 lb. Fluking off the Pink House was good, but a lot of shorts were mixing in. Blues could be found in the same area during early mornings. **Ralph's Fishing Station** in Mount Sinai added that 5 lb. blues occasionally showed in that sector, and that both umbrella trollers and jiggers with AVAs scored well. The best fluke this week weighed 4½ lb., and squid-sand eel or squid-spearing combos worked well.

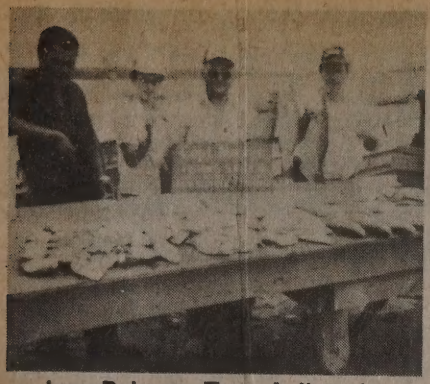
Porgies in Mount Sinai Harbor were also of good size.

NORTH FORK

Porgy action has overspread the region, and good weather allowed small boats to explore all waters overt he weekend for everything from scup to big bluefish. Fluke angling continues to be good, and small blues can be found in most areas.

The Peconic Bays have a few weaks now, but the main catch is porgies from the South Race, off the North Race, and in the Roses Grove zone south of buoy 22. The Middle Ground and Jessups were also mentioned. On Saturday, John Melvin, Jerry Parker, and Christie had 182 scup for Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's**, and John Murgeson pulled some 150 porgies into the station on Sunday. Saturday's Catch came from Roses, while Sunday's came from the area around buoy 25.

Ed Kopack at **Warren's** in **Aquebogue** liked the Sound east of the Firing Range for porgies and saw plenty of small bluefish coming from the slot between Northville and Buoy 5. Choppers from 1-4 pounds were also taken between Goldsmiths and Hortons. Fluke catches continue to please at the **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** with 30 fish hauls including



Juan Reigosa, Tony Avilas, Jr., Tony Avilas and Ralph Adorna took 116 porgies and 15 weaks on a recent outing off of Peconic Bay's Nassau Point. They fished out of Capt. Marty's Fishing Station in New Suffolk.

1½ ot 3 pound fish possible for sharpies. Porgies at the inlet continue to be catchable when the blues aren't chasing them.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** saw a lot of nice fluke to 2½ pounds off the Station in **Orient** and felt that porgy angling between Pettys and the Station was pretty good. The tip at Orient still held flounder to 2 pounds in 20' of water.

Dragging two miles off the beach seems to have cut into the numbers of weaks, porgies, and blues from Southold west, but those who seek the weakfish and bluefish show chan still find the fish to the east in Pigeon Rip. Drifting bucktails was advised.

The porgy boats, **Brand X** and **Peconic Star**, were seeing some "red hot" angling, according to George Porter of the former. George's trick is to let his best spots rest for a couple of days between trips, and, that way, catches stay steady. Most anglers haul 20-30 fish of mixed sizes daily, and the pros can do much better on a day when they've picked the lucky spots in bow or stern.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** particularly liked the porgy picture off Gardiner's Eastern Plains, and said that the charters were doing nicely on 2-5 pound fluke down that way. White advises that the best blues are off Block Island right now and that tinker mackerel can be found with snappers off local docks.

The **Blue Albatross** had a very good to excellent week, said Anna Rainis, often pulling 10 or more fluke per fare with only a few throwbacks. On Friday, John Powers took pool honors with a fish around 6 pounds. The **Nancy Ann** has been alternating between porgies and fluke. Saturday's scup trip was very good, and Sunday's party accounted for 165 keeper fluke among 19 anglers.

FISHING REPORTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 54.

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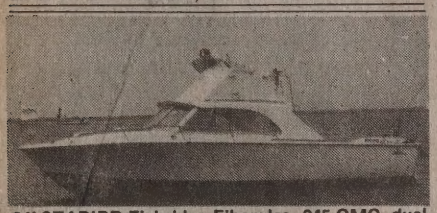

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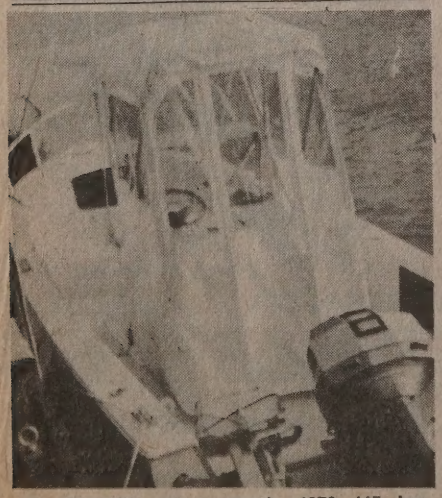

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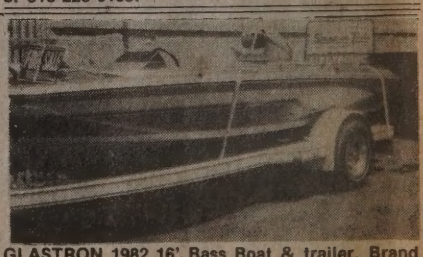

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CRUISER 1978, 21 cuddy cabin. Head, CB, Si-Tex 30. Extras. 1977 175 Evinrude O/B. 1977 Shoreline trailer, tandem power winch. Seen weekdays 8-5—152 R.R. St., Huntington Sta., NY; HA 3-0750. $9700. Excellent.

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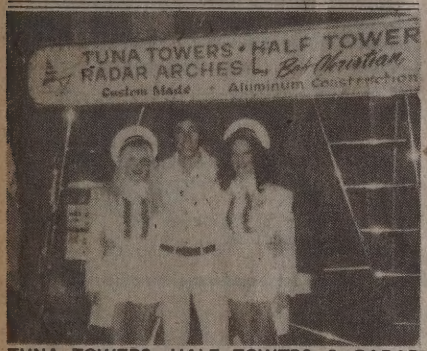
1975 SEACRAFT 20' center console, 85 h.p. Evinrude, ship-to-shore VHF, Lowrance Blue Water DF, compass, fuel-hour-temp. gauges, bilge pump, fish well, live bait well. Storage compartments, rod holders & racks, S/S steering wheel & bow rail. Dual air horns, spray boot. Very economical, 47 gal. fuel tank. Clean boat. In excl. cond. $6000 Or will make deal for Chris Craft 25' Tournament Fisherman. 212-626-7547.

40' SPORTFISHERMAN. Twin diesels, 3 kw Onan, tuna tower, 6' pulpit. New outriggers, new canvas, teal decks. Needs some handyman work on interior. Good cond. $15,000. 516-567-2843.



TUNA TOWERS, HALF TOWERS & RADAR ARCHES—Custom made to your specifications. Anodized aluminum construction; welded joints. Delivered & fitted to your boat. Controls optional. Free estimates. Also self-inflating life rafts. Call Bob Christian, Eves: 516-979-9193.

SUZUKI Outboards—24% off all models in stock. Full factory authorized service & warranty. DON'S YACHT YARD, 516-399-3330.

UNIFLITE 1970 27' FBSF 2/225 FWC, rebuilt '77. Bennet tabs; new manifolds '81. Dual stations; many extras. Asking $13,250. 516-842-1197.

1977 Spartan Galv. tandem 21' Boat trailer, 3500 lb. capacity, 812C power winch, bearing buddies. $1000. 516-724-1702.

12'-14' Aluminum Boats 33% off list for factory seconds. Save $421 on welded, heavy gauge 14' boat. 914-565-6311.

WANTED—Clean, used, Fiberglass boats from 14'-26'. 519 Boatyard, Copiague, 516-789-8789. Boats for sale.

MAKO 19', 100 h.p. Evinrude & Dilly Trailer. Many extras. In water; ready to go. Asking $3800. Days: 212-945-0350. Eves: 516-887-2004.

PERKINS Diesel Deep V Fiberglass; 2 berth, 21' English built "Romany." $7500. Huntington. Days only. 516-549-4333.

Charterboat 42', 36-passenger. Full elec.; walk-around deck. Current certificates. Good dockside appeal. $15K Firm. 516-731-1794.

SEAWAY 23' Maine built, fiberglass, 115 h.p. Johnson—all 1977. Self-bailing; cuddy, V bunks, sink, alcohol stove, ice box, Porta-Potti. Ideal fishing & family boat. Excl. cond.; plus extras. Must see. $10,500. 516-599-6722.

1977 21' Mackie cuddy cabin. Sleeps 2; 198 h.p. Merc. I/O, power trim, VHF, CB. Depth recorder, 51 gal. tank, CG pkg. Full canvas, dual batt., 3-way switch w/lock & more. $7500. With E-Z Loader Trailer $8500. Ready to go. 212-639-6135 Eves.

Rebuilt 327 FWC w/1½ to 1 reduction gear. Excellent; will Demo. Asking $1800. 50 gal. S.S. fuel tank, $150. Eves. 212-343-7976.

PACEMAKER 26' Alglass, center console, tuna tower. Best Offer. 516-758-6027 Eves.

GALAXY '79, 19' 85 h.p. Evinrude. E-Z Load Trailer. Excellent. $4900. 516-567-9424.

SHAMROCK KEEL DRIVE—20' & new 26' gas or diesel; 3 models. Also Mako & Cruiser, Inc. Demo avail. Used 20' diesel, $14,995. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400; 516-728-0922.

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1980 MFG Morrison Duke Elite, 22' 3" Cream w/brown flake stripe, cuddy cabin, stereo, VHF, sink, Porta-Potty, diamond tuft interior, play pen, rugs. Full instrumentation; power steering, auto. bilge pump, 260 Merc. I/O. Full canvas. Comp. CG pkg., swim platforms, ski rings, swivel bucket seats, remote bow lite. Everying on circuit breakers. Boat in showroom cond. $13,500. 475-4485 Days.

BOATING EQPT.

Boat Trailer 17' 1700 lb. cap. Highlander 12" wheels. Good condition. $300. 516-481-6391.

BOAT TRAILER, 6,000 lb. capacity positive tilt, tandem 14" wheels. Hydraulic brakes can haul 21' boat. $1250. 589-7237.

Protect your boat & equipment from theft & vandalism...Electronically! Marine Alarm is an easily installed, UL approved unit that ends your worries about boat & equipment theft. Wholesale prices for equipment only or installed. Free survey. Custom system, Box 266, Upton, NY 11973; 516-399-3806. Also avail: Commercial/Residential burglar & fire alarms.

20% off List price on all Evinrude & Johnson propellers in stock. BURCK, 526 City Island Ave., Bronx, NY., 212-885-1559.

CALL US LAST for All your marine supplies. Anchors to Zincs with over 6000 items in-between. Big discounts on electronics, winches, gauges, refrigerators, etc. Call Today. Free 350 page catalog with any purchase. GRAND AM, Huntington, 516-673-6370.

Carburetors, marine. Rebuilt on premises. Starters & alternators in stock; discounted. Free Bench check. CRAFTSMAN, 268 Rt. 109, Farmingdale, NY. 516-752-1259.

LOBSTER GEAR—Traps. New & Used. Oso haulers & parts. Everything for the lobster fisherman. 516-427-4063.

100% Stainless steel marine products: rails, towers, ladders, brackets, hinges, cleats, rod holders, shafts, struts, chocks, fasteners, pulpits. Custom & standard products avail. SEABRITE STAINLESS SALES CO., 63 Morris Ave & Hwy #35, Neptune City, NJ 07753; 201-988-8818. Send $2.25 for complete catalog.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG. INC., 87 Arlington Ave., St. James, NY 11780; 516-265-3036.

STYLUS AVAILABLE for all Si-Tex, Furuno, Raytheon recorders. Chart paper in stock for these & most other recording units from other manufacturers. HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS, 250 Montauk Hwy., Islip. 516-581-0194.

LOOK—LOOK—LOOK
E-Z Loader brand Trailers. The world's finest at huge discounts. New - Used - Trades. Complete hitch & service center. BAILEY'S, 546-3757.

Stainless steel handrail for Mako custom console, $100; Lee's 18' outriggers w/flush mount bases, $225. All mint; used one season. 516-681-2517.

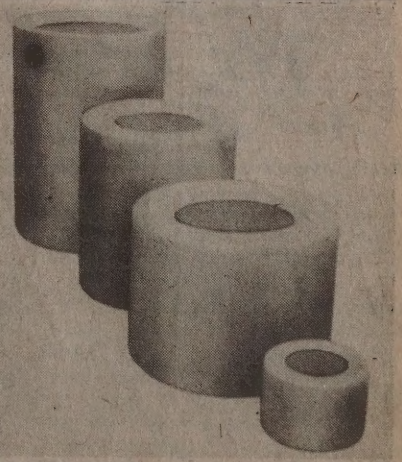
BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent h itches for Sale or Rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 Broadway, Woodside, New York; 212-426-7039.

TRAILER HITCHES. The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock in Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

COMPASSES-COMPASSES-COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

FISHING TACKLE

BUCKO'S Parts & Service Center. We Carry parts for Daiwa, Kencor, Olympic, Newell, Ryobi, Penn, Shimano, Zebco, Quick, Mitchell. To order, call 617-674-7900, or write: P.O. Box 87, Fall River, Mass. 02724.

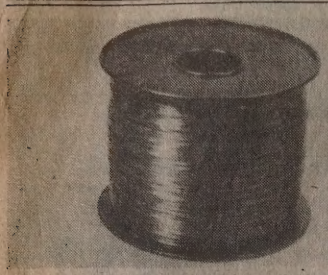


LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send $.40 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Ave., Dept. L, Central Islip, NY 11722. 516-234-0144.

STOP LOSING FISH, lures, lines! Fishing Knots Manual shows step-by-step, best proven knots, end-loops, droppers, splices, for sea, lake, stream. $3.00 REDLAC COMPANY, Box 175, Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

Continued On Next Page

The Whale is Spouting, Everyone's Shouting about the new low prices at ADKINS FISHING TACKLE. New catalog, $1.00, refunded with order. P.O. Box 224, Mt. Sinai, N.Y. 11766.



QUALITY WIRE LINE, #304 single strand soft stainless steel. Very flexible, extra strong & easy to handle. Long-time favorite of charter captains, now avail. to sport fishermen on money saving bulk spools: 40 lb, 023 dia., 3,544', $36.35; 50 lb., .025 dia., 3,000', $34.20; 60 lb., .028 dia., 2390', $32.95. Add $1.50 for shipping. Orders shipped immediately. Visa, Master Card, check. BAY CITY TACKLE, Box 253B, Agawam, Mass. 01001. 413-786-3706.

Catch more fish—with superior designed saltwater rigs. Send for Free Catalog now! HUDSON TACKLE, Dept. I, P.O. Box 437, Kearny, New Jersey 07032.

Buy Fishing Tackle Factory Direct. Reels from $4; complete umbrella rigs $5. Closeouts! Many specials & unique items. Free catalog. ECONOMY TACKLE, P.O. Box 478, Deer Park, NY 11729.

Australian Surfcasting Alvey reel #650 - 1 extra spool; and 12' Fenwick custom built matching rod. All new. $175. 212-923-1627.

FLUKE KILLER RIGS: The ultimate in a deadly double hook rig. You will hook more & lose fewer fluke, since fish can't avoid fully adjustable tail hook. Hand tied, finest materials. 3/$3.50 or 10/$10. P. MILLER, 150 Babylon TPKE, Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

EVERYTHING for the Saltwater Fisherman. Quality tackle & accessories at lowest prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. Free 76-page catalog. THE TACKLE BOX, Dept. FG-22, Falmouth, Cape Cod, Mass. 02540.

Used Offshore Equipment. Excl. cond. Penn 80 International, $300; Penn 20 International, $185. Matched set of 80 & 50 lb. custom rods, $200 each—Aftco butts & guides. 50 lb. Kencor trolling rod, $45; 50 lb. Lamiglass custom rod, $100. 212-478-4133 Eves. 6-8. Pete.

SAVE MONEY

Turn your favorite rods back to new. All types of rod repairs & wraps in stock. Custom built IGFA rods, 12, 20, 30, 50. Rods sold individually. Discounts on complete sets. Special orders accepted. 516-724-0478 After 6PM

SUPER BUY: Daiwa 50H, 47H - $38.75 ea; Shimano MLZ60 - $34.75 tax inc. Add $2 U.P.S. R.S. ENT, P.O. Box 673, Freeport, NY 11520.

Rods, reels & line: 9.0, 6.0, Jigmaster 500, surf-casting set, tackle cabinet. More. 516-587-0455.

MISCELLANEOUS

GULF STREAM CHARTERS: Great South Bay, Ocean, Canyon; 32' twin diesel. Attractive rates. 516-587-7383.

1955 WILLY'S 4WD S.W. Needs motor rebuilt or swap. With/Without 7' belt pump Meyers Plow. Best offer. 914-969-1852. Eves.

TAXIDERMY SERVICE—hunting, fishing supplies & licenses. Bwana Jim's Trading Post, 2145 Rt. 112, Medford. 654-3859; 588-8829.

FISH WITH ME in Freeport. The "Jolly Fisherman," 27' Sportfisherman. Ask about guarantee. Capt. Fred, Eves. 212-525-4490.

Charter, 43' Albin Trawler; by the day, bare boat. Located North Shore. Capt. Jerry, 212-347-4810.

GRALITE WADERS—In stock. At discount prices; for immediate delivery. These waders have a 5-year warranty. Write: THE SURFCASTER, Dept. Y, 113 Maywood Rd. Darien, CT 06820; or call 203-866-1289. #39

WANTED—Vintage marine clocks, barometers, thermometers, telescopes, lanterns, portholes & related nautical items. 516-354-2668.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN. Available for charters, water deliveries, transfers, individual trips; boat handling instruction. 516-795-4498.

FISH IDENTIFICATION CHART—shows 85 salt & fresh water species native to our East Coast. Lithographed in beautiful, lifelike color on heavy, coated stock. Suitable for framing; size 36"x24". Send ck. or M.O. for $9.95 to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

Atlantic Chartering Service, 26' Carver, 1-4 passenger. Fully equip. Reasonable rates. For information & reservations, contact Captain Paul, 516-488-5507.

WANT to catch more fish this year? Read "The First Book of Angling Ideas," written by editors of The Fisherman magazines. It has 8 chapters on everything from flounder to cod jigging in the Gulf of Maine to shark fishing to the basics of Loran C for small boats. Complete w/color cover & over 80 illustrations & drawings. 96-pages. Send $3.95 plus $.53 p/h to BARRETT & COLEMAN Publications, 339 Herbertsville Rd., Brick Town, NJ 08723. NJ residents add $.25 Sales Tax.

MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE: 1975 Honda CB360T, elec. start, crash bar, sissy bar. Blue; very economical. Very low mileage. Mint cond.; w/helmet. $900. 516-868-2391 or 516-223-6135.

Mercury Cruiser engines & stern drives. Tuneups, repairs and overhauls. HIGHLAND MARINE, 516-587-7567.

TAIL DRAGGING?

Heavy Duty Springs made to your order & needs! Call: COUNTY AUTO SPRING, 516-561-0661; 140 East Merrick Rd., Valley Stream, NY 11580.

Fully Licensed Captain w/4 yrs. running experience—bay, ocean fishing, canyon fishing, excursion. Available for charters, sport fishing, excursions, water deliveries. Boat handling instruction. Have references. 516-422-0635.

REAL ESTATE

In The Hamptons—centrally located Co-Op apartments. Ideal base of operations for summer vacationing or perfect for year-round. Tranquil setting having only 10, 1BR garden apartments, with quality construction & appealing design. A unique Southampton Township property, near everything. Worth investigating. Cash down $17,500; maintenance and financing $431 per month. Offering by Prospectus only. GOLD KEY ASSOC., 516-728-1100.

Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

Surf fishing around the Island this week has been plagued by an influx of baby bluefish, most hardly a pound or two in weight on both shores of the Island. The small choppers are great entertainment for casters new to the game or provide great sport for youngsters getting their feet wet in the surf. They're even fun for calloused veterans - up to a point. It seems there's no hiding from these little guys.

Out on **Staten Island**, Kevin Koncelik of **Santo's Sport Shop** still painted the local surf scene blue but it was primarily the little variety which made getting through to bigger blues and weakfish a difficult task. Even anglers fishing sandworms on the bottom for weakfish were harassed by baby bluefish this week. Still plenty of bait in the form of bunker and sandeels all around the Island. A couple of Striper Surf Club members continued to put a small dent in the striper population along western south shore beaches. According to John Christianson, P.R. man for the club, Jack Driscoll and Bill Rothwell who scored with a trio of fish last weekend did it again Saturday night. Jack took fish of 26 & 31 pounds on live eels while Bill took an 18 pounder on a rigged eel.

"Poppy" Ing of **Suffolk Marine Tackle** in **Babylon** relayed reports of some lively action at the Sore Thumb inside F.I. Inlet. On Saturday, Poppy's nephew Ron Ing used an Ava jig and white tube combo to take 4 weaks up to 8 pounds along with 15 blues in the 2-5 pound range. Same day, Bobby Sandora clicked with 21 blues. Jimmy Riggio racked up an impressive score of 17 weaks and nearly 200 bluefish over the course of the week.

There was also some action on small blues and weaks across the way at Democrat Point. Dan Chacko weighed a 7 pound weak taken on tin at **Augies Bait and Tackle** on Thursday.

Weakfish action on the east end remained worth while although the scene of the fishing has shifted to a long stretch of Gin Beach according to Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in Montauk. 5½ inch Redfins accounted for numerous weaks in the 5-10 pound range and there were some small blues mixed in. Both the south side and up front fizzled with no life here in recent days.

Up on the North Shore small blues again dominated the scene. George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** in **Huntington** knew that casters have been taking lots of small blues at Crab Meadow and Lilco at almost any time of the day. Makamah Beach has been producing fish mornings and evenings. An occasional weak is mixed with the blues in the area. Small tins or plugs are taking the fish.

To the east in **Rocky Point**, Stan Henschel of **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** said that disregarding the small blues which are in and out along local beaches surf fishing in the area is stinko. No bass or weakfish activity to speak of from here.

The same holds true for the North Fork apparently. Ed Kopack of **Warren's Tackle Shop** in **Aquebogue** called the local surf scene pretty quiet with the exception of some small blues on tins in the AM and evenings near Iron Pier and Hortons Point.

Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	AM			NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR.	9:00			0:05	9:45	9:50	10:35	10:40	12:10	12:40	12:00	12:25	8:55	9:10	
FRI.	9:35			10:40	10:25	10:25	11:15	11:20	12:30	12:55	12:40	1:00	9:35	9:50	
SAT.	10:15	10:25		11:15	11:00	11:00	11:50	–	1:00	1:25	1:15	1:40	10:15	10:30	
SUN.	10:50	11:10		11:55	11:40	11:35	12:00	12:30	1:40	2:05	1:50	2:20	11:00	11:15	
MON.	11:35	11:55	–	12:25	–	12:20	12:40	1:15	2:20	2:45	2:35	3:00	11:40	11:55	
TUE.	–	12:25	12:35	1:10	12:20	1:00	1:30	2:05	3:05	3:30	3:15	3:45	–	12:30	
WED.	12:40	1:15	1:25	2:00	1:05	1:45	2:20	2:55	3:55	4:25	4:10	4:35	12:45	1:20	
THUR.	1:35	2:10	2:15	3:00	1:55	2:45	3:20	3:50	4:50	5:20	5:05	5:30	1:45	2:20	

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

8/6	5:58	8:13
8/7	5:59	8:11
8/8	6:00	8:10
8/9	6:01	8:09
8/10	6:02	8:07
8/11	6:03	8:06
8/12	6:04	8:04

Moonrise/Moonset

8/6	9:25PM	7:22AM
8/7	9:54PM	8:24AM
8/8	10:22PM	9:27AM
8/9	10:49PM	10:31AM
8/10	11:17PM	11:36AM
8/11	11:49PM	12:13PM
8/12	–	1:52PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
8/19	8/26	8/4	8/12

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	5:55	—	6:20	**12:10**
Fri.	6:50	**12:35**	7:20	**1:05**
Sat.	7:35	**1:25**	8:05	**1:50**
Sun.	8:25	**2:15**	8:55	**2:40**
Mon.	9:10	**3:00**	9:45	**3:30**
Tues.	10:00	**3:50**	10:30	**4:15**
Wed.	10:55	**4:45**	11:25	**5:10**
Thurs.	11:50	**5:40**	—	**6:05**

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